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U.S. ASAT TESTS 'BEGINNING' OF SPACE ARMS RACE

LD232037 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 23 Jan 84

[From "The World Today" program; by Igor Fesunenko]

[Excerpts] Many of today's papers in various countries throughout the world publish reports and commentaries, for the most part anxious and uneasy ones, in connection with the tests just carried out in the United States on the ASAT antisatellite system, which is designed to destroy targets in low earth orbit.

The transfer of the arms race into space, planned and promised by Reagan, is thus beginning to the implemented, and that means that Washington aspires still more crudely and openly to destroying the present military and strategic parity and to make the danger of nuclear conflict still more likely.

'Open Challenge' to UN

LD240719 Moscow TASS in English 0704 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] New York January 24 TASS -- The tests of the anti-satellite system carried out by the U.S. are an open challenge to the U.N. resolutions directed again the arms in outer space. This militarist action undermined the hopes to preserve the new sphere of the activities of man exclusively for peaceful purposes.

This is how the U.N. circles assessed the first launching into orbit of a U.S. rocket intended for the destruction of targets in outer space. The policy of the militarisation of outer space pursued by Washington is not an unexpected development. Suffice it to recall that at the latest 28th session of the U.N. General Assembly, the U.S. was the only country which voted against the resolution on preventing the arms race in outer space. Earlier the U.S. rejected the proposal put forward by the Soviet Union on reaching an agreement concerning the non-deployment in outer space of any kinds of weapons.

'TRADITIONALLY HOSTILE' U.S. ARMS STANCE VIEWED

LD231653 Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 23 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

In its three years in office the Reagan administration has failed to treat the world public to a wide variety of approaches to the problems of arms limitations and reductions. Properly speaking, the present U.S. Government tended to react to demands for an end to the arms race mainly in either of the following two ways.

The first way -- Washington simply stated its repudiation of the already wrapped-up agreements by invoking "their untimeliness," "inadequacy" or "impossibility of monitoring their compliance." Following this recipe, the American side derailed the SALT-2 treaty, the treaties on limiting underground nuclear weapons tests and on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. One modification of this approach was the U.S. Administration's refusal to engage in negotiations on a complete and universal prohibition of nuclear tests, on the anti-satellite systems, on restricting military activity in the Indian Ocean and others.

The second approach has been this: The United States explains that before embarking on arms reductions the Pentagon must first build up to a maximum, since allegedly "the Russians are realists and recognize only force and thus need to be stimulated into serious negotiation by military threats." The classic examples of this approach have been NATO's "two-track solution" on nuclear arms in Europe and the U.S. tactic at the talks on strategic arms limitations and reductions. The only thing that is realistic in this approach is Washington's intention to increase U.S. arms arsenals, while the talk about talks is only a ploy for deceiving and lulling the world public.

The U.S. Administration has been especially "unlucky" in its approaches to the problem of liquidating chemical weapons. For starters, Washington "processed" this problem according to the first approach described above, by disrupting, in July 1980, the bilateral Soviet-American talks which aimed at producing a joint initiative on banning chemical weapons, and by virtually deadlocking discussion of the question of banning of chemical weapons in the committee on disarmament at Geneva.

As is known, on January 10 of this year the Warsaw Treaty member-states tabled a number of specific proposals on the question of ridding Europe of chemical weapons, on holding in 1984 a meeting with the NATO member-countries and other European states concerned in order to exchange opinions on regional measures for limiting, reducing and liquidating the chemical weapons on the continent.

Faced with this profoundly humane proposal of the socialist community, which took a realistic account of the world's situation, the United States again resorted to unseemly manoeuvres and manipulations. Washington clearly shows no intention of revising its traditionally hostile attitude to the proposal to ban one of the most barbarous and perfidious means of mass destruction.

It looks as if Washington is now going to play out another "two-track solution", this time with chemical weapons. The Reagan administration intends to railroad through Congress a giant five-year program for a U.S. chemical re-armament worth between 6 and 7 billion dollars. The program provides for developing new nerve gases, binary ammunition and aviation chemical bombs. At the same time the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz made public in Stockholm the Reagan administration's intention to offer in the near future its "draft treaty on a total and verifiable ban on chemical weapons." Thus, Washington again resorts to its absurd ploy -- to move toward disarmament through a build-up of the U.S. military potential.

QUESTIONS ON ARMS PROPOSALS, MISSILES ANSWERED

LD211739 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 21 Jan 84

[All-Union Radio commentator Viktor Levin replies to letters]

[Excerpts] I have before me a letter from Ferudin Khasanov from the city of Frunze. He asks a question in connection with the obligation announced by the USSR not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. This question is now attracting extensive attention. As you know, at the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security and Disarmament that is underway in Stockholm, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and foreign minister, proposed that in order to strengthen trust states possessing nuclear weapons should undertake the obligation not to be the first to use them. It is impossible to overestimate the importance of this proposal. For in fact at the Stockholm conference there is discussion of strengthening trust among countries, trust both in the political and in the military sphere.

We all know very well that the start of the deployment in West Europe of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles sharply exacerbated the situation and, with good reason, gave rise to deep alarm among the European public concerning the political course of the United States. In these conditions the readiness of states possessing nuclear weapons to undertake the obligation not to be the first to use them would promote the creation of a considerably more favorable political climate.

Moreover, what would it mean if all the nuclear powers undertook not to be the first to use nuclear weapons? It would mean that there would be no first and no subsequent nuclear strikes. This is the purpose of the USSR's important peace initiative. Our country proceeds precisely from this. As is stressed in Yuriy Vladimirovich's statement, the USSR sees the main task as being not to allow a nuclear war to be unleashed. And the proposal introduced at the Stockholm conference could be an effective step toward achieving this aim.

The Soviet initiative has met with a broad response from the peace-loving public; the supporters of peace rightly see in it a realistic path to lessening the threat of a nuclear war. One can also say with complete justification that the USSR's specific proposal consolidates the conviction of the antimissile movement to the effect that the very complicated problems with which mankind is now faced can be solved. And this confidence gives a new impulse to the antimissile movement.

The missile problem occupies a large place in the letters from our listeners. This is quite natural as the adventurist policy of the United States cannot leave anyone indifferent. In this connection Muscovite Bakhchiyeva asks for an explanation of why the FRG Government agreed to the deployment of U.S. Pershings and cruise missiles on its territory. Such a question could be asked with complete justification about the Governments of Britain and Italy. For, as is known, they also granted their territory for U.S. medium-range missiles. What guided them in this? First of all, by utopian calculations of achieving military superiority over the socialist countries. Formally, in order to deceive public opinion, they assert that, allegedly, the installation of U.S. missiles is required to defend West Europe, but no one is threatening it. And today understanding of the true state of affairs is penetrating ever deeper into the consciousness of the European peoples and is giving rise to active antimissile demonstrations.

Listener Mumod from the town of Pyatikhatki links her question with the problem of the deployment of U.S. missiles. She asks for an explanation of whether it is worth our while to maintain trade relations with those West European countries that have agreed to make their territory available for U.S. missiles aimed at the USSR. It is worth our while. It is absolutely worthwhile. For the point is that trade is an important factor of stabilization and normalization of political relations. We are not at all supporters of whipping up tension. No. We are actively striving to ensure that the present negative period in the development of international relations should be overcome as soon as possible. And for these aims trade can and does play a quite definite positive role. Moreover, one should not lose sight of the fact that trade is a reciprocal process. It is advantageous to both sides.

NUCLEAR MENACE 'DARKLY LOOMING' OVER EUROPE

LD222236 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Commentary by Lev Semeyko]

[Text] Five years ago, President Carter asked Moscow: confrontation or capitulation? Confrontation is a fact of the day through the fault of the White House which is now dreaming of Soviet capitulation, both political and military, in the long run.

While following its adventuristic policy, the administration in Washington is maneuvering between a desire to unleash and win a nuclear war and the powerful opposition from the public to the very idea of war. That is the reason why the official pronouncements emanating from Washington often contradict each other. Let us compare, for instance, the statements made by Defense Secretary Weinberger, General Rogers, and other ranking officials.

Defense Secretary Weinberger told NEVE OSNABRUCKER ZEITUNG that a nuclear war cannot be contained. This is a sober-minded statement; but two years ago President Reagan made a statement with a diametrically opposite message. Mr. Haig, who had by that time donned a civilain suit, bluntly declared that NATO had drawn up plans for delivering what he termed limited nuclear strikes. Mr Weinberger is now trying to calm public opinion in Europe just as his predecessors did 2 years ago. he says that limited nuclear war is fiction. Well, the Soviet Union maintains the same view. There is every reason for making every effort to prevent war and halt the nuclear buildup (?acting) together.

But, on the other hand, Mr Weinberger has pledged that the deployment in Europe of nearly 600 advanced American medium-range nuclear missiles will proceed in accordance with the timetable. At the recent Brussels session of NATO he did a great deal to make sure that the NATO allies support the policy of nuclear rearmament. Nuclear rearmament is aimed at securing supremacy and it therefore provides for unleashing nuclear war. American strategists believe that if they fail to secure supremacy they may stockpile so many nuclear weapons in Europe that they can be used selectively. They are hoping that a nuclear war will be confined in Europe.

For his part, General Rogers has spelt out what the Pentagon chief implied. In a recent interview he said that the United States and NATO are not going to abandon their intention to be the first to use nuclear weapons. He acknowledged that the new American missiles in Europe are designed for a first strike; the general is in charge of the implementation of NATO's plans in Europe. Understandably, he believes that a first use of nuclear weapons will take place in Europe and that the new American nuclear missiles being deployed on the continent will be used.

According to the Pentagor, a localized nuclear strike is to check an offensive of supposedly superior Warsaw Treaty forces. But what will the use of nuclear weapons in Europe amount to in reality? There can be no doubt at all that any attempt to confine an effective nuclear war to Europe or any other region will fail. It is unlikely that General Rogers wants United States territory to immediately become the target of Soviet nuclear strikes in response to an American attack, after all, Mr Rogers is an American and therefore he wants nuclear slaughter to be confined to Europe. Obviously neither Mr Rogers' calls for beefing up conventional weapons held by NATO for what he terms delaying or even ruling out nuclear war, nor Mr Weinberger's assurances can calm those whose homes and families are in Europe.

The nuclear menace is darkly looming over Europe and the most pressing task today is to remove it or at least reduce it. No amount of assurances and claims that rearmament can strenthen security can (?eclipse) the very real danger posed by it both to the Europeans and Americans. That is why the appeal of the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty coun countries for concluding a treaty with NATO whereby the two sides would undertake not to use armed force against each other maintain relations of peace, renewed at the Stockholm conference, is so timely.

'KOMISSAROV' CITED ON ANTI-CRUISE DEFENSE

LD152047 Helsinki International Service in Finnish 1600 GMT 15 Jan 84

[Text] According to Yuriy Komissarov, the pseudonym used to express the views of the Soviet leadership, the cruise missiles are not political weapons but first-strike weapons.

In a war situation they would probably violate Finnish and Swedish airspace. Against this background, Komissarov regards it natural that the debate on the cruise missiles is connected with the YYA Treaty [Finnish-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance and its obligations. Here is a report by Jorma Lehto:

[Lehto] As expected, Komissarov has a very negative view of the cruise missiles deployed by the United States in Europe. According to Komissarov, the deployment of cruise missiles in Europe has [words indistinct] the situation on our continent, and it may also affect the situation in northern Europe, as well as in Finland and Sweden. Komissarov refers to President Kekkonen's warning given 5 years ago, according to which northern Europe will not be able to remain outside the strategies based on the use of nuclear missiles in Europe.

Komissarov says that the cruise and Pershing missiles are typical first-strike weapons and not political weapons that would go into the airspace of some countries. Thus, according to Komissarov, they will be particularly dangerous to countries over which they fly. According to Komissarov, they would violate Finnish and Swedish airspace. The author stresses further that the North Atlantic alliance intends in a war situation to sttack with missiles the northwestern border area of the Soviet Union, where such important centers as Leningrad, Murmansk, and Arkhangelskiy are situated. The author stresses further that the flight of cruise missiles into Finnish or Swedish airspace will arouse the question of whether warring countries can make use of the territories of countries outside the conflict. In this case, according to Komissarov, the problem arises of what are the rights and obligations of these countries to defend the inviolability of their territories. Komissarov refers to President Koivisto's interview to the French newspaper LE MONDE in which the president says that the countries outside the conflict must be able to defend the inviolability of their own territory from over-flying cruise missiles.

Komissarov says that thus it is natural that the debate which has arisen in Finland on the cruise missiles is often connected with Finland's obligations under the YYA Treaty.

In the article [not further identified] Komissarov says that the Soviet Union is prepared to guarantee, together with other nuclear powers, the status of a nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe. The article reiterates the Soviet proposal according to which the Soviet Union is prepared to consider measures in the area bordering the future zone. The Soviet Union is also prepared to discuss the status of the Baltic as a nuclear-free area. However, according to Komissarov, no parts of the Soviet Union can be included in the nuclear-free zone.

Despite the great challenge posed by the cruise missiles, there are groups of people who have an optimistic attitude towards a nuclear-free north. SETE, or the Finnish working group for promoting European security, is among them.

Chairman Pirkko Tyoelaejaervi: [Begin recording] (?We have seen a tremendous) change in Finland during the 20 years that nuclear weapons [words indistinct]. The current is strong. (?I am happy that) people viewing matters very realistically have [word indistinct] this process in such a way that [word indistinct] from time to time discussions (?have taken place). [sentence indistinct] [end recording].

CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS IN MOSCOW

Arrival of CSSR Delegation

LD231815 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1500 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The Czechoslovak delegation to the 109th session of the CEMA Executive Committee arrived in Moscow today. It is led by Rudolf Rohlicek, vice premier of the federal government and permanent Czechoslovak representative to CEMA.

Hungary's Marjai Arrives

LD222334 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] Jozsef Marjai has arrived in Moscow. The deputy chairman of the government, our country's permanent representative to CEMA, will participate in the Executive Committee session. Jozsef Marjai was welcomed at the airport by Talyzin, Soviet deputy premier, and by Zychev, secretary of CEMA.

Session Convenes

LD240826 Moscow World Service in English 0820 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Executive Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance has convened for a meeting here in Moscow. The meeting is attended by delegations from six East European socialist countries, the USSR, Mongolia, Vietnam, and Cuba, who are discussing the prospects of cooperation in prominent economic, scientific, and technical spheres. The current meeting coincides with the 35th anniversary of the world's first organization established to promote economic cooperation among socialist nations which have turned into a dynamically developing group of countries.

Further Details

LD241027 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 24 TASS -- A session of the Executive Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) opened in Moscow today.

Its participants will discuss the course of the construction of joint integration projects and the prospects of the introduction in production of automated complexes. They will also sum up the results of the 10 years of activities of the international institute of the economic problems of the world socialist system.

The agenda of the Executive Committee includes the question on relations with international organizations. Milan Krajcir, head of the Information Department of the CMEA Secretariat, told a press conference today that CMEA maintained relations with 60 international organizations today. For instance, in 1983 it received invitations to take part in more than 600 events of 115 international and national organizations, which is evidence of the enhancement of the prestige of CMEA in the international arena.

The session of the Executive Committee which is to last for three days is held, as usual, on the level of deputy heads of government of the CMEA member states.

HUNGARIAN OFFICIAL PRAISES CEMA COOPERATION

LD201548 Moscow TASS in English 1351 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Budapest January 20 TASS -- Ever closer economic, scientific and technical cooperation with CMEA countries and, above all, with the Soviet Union is of fundamental importance for the development of the Hungarian national economy, Laszlo Ballai, head of the Economic Policy Department of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, has declared. He gave an interview to a TASS correspondent in connection with the 35th anniversary of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

Cooperation within the CMEA framework, he said, ensured balanced economic development of Hungary. It reduced sustantially the consequences of the extremely unfavourable changes in the world economy that took place in the past decade. Hungary, like all other CMEA member states, receives from the Soviet Union energy carriers and raw materials on much easier terms than those existing on world markets in exchange for machines, foodstuffs and other consumer goods.

"We believe that economic cooperation with socialist countries will continue to be a reliable basis for resolving major economic tasks facing Hungary," Laszlo Ballai pointed out.

E. BLOC TRADE UNIONS DISCUSS WORLD SITUATION

PM181004 Moscow TRUD in Russian 17 Jan 84 p 1

[Own correspondent R. Urmantsev report: "Trade Unions' Lofty Duty"]

[Text] Prague, 16 Jan -- A conference of leaders of the European socialist countries' trade union centers was held on 16 January in Prague.

The conference, in which trade union center leaders from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Romania, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and representatives of Poland's trade union movement took part, discussed trade unions' tasks in the current aggravated situation in the world caused by the start of deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe and their bringing into a state of combat readiness. The conference participants exchanged opinions on topical problems of the present-day international situation and stressed the pressing need to further step up trade unions' efforts in the struggle for peace and the prevention of nuclear catastrophe.

The conference adopted a letter from the European socialist countries' trade union centers to the working people and trade unions of Western Europe.

The Soviet trade union delegation at the conference was led by S.A. Shalayev, AUCCTU chairman. Ibrahim Zakaria, general secretary of the WFTU, took part in the conference's work.

STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE, REAGAN SPEECH ANALYZED

PM231911 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[Nikolay Prozhogin "International Review"]

[Text] A Consistent Peace Policy

The Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe, which has opened in Stockholm, was undoubtedly the international event that attracted the most attention last week. Its very name reflects the tasks it has to solve. They have become particularly pressing now that deployment has begun in some West European countries of the new U.S. nuclear missiles together with the export of militarism, enmity, and war hysteria. These facts give the Stockholm conference even greater significance. The very fact that it has been convened, which the Soviet Union advocated for a long time, shows that today no one can ignore the peoples' wish for peace and cooperation. At the same time, it shows that no matter how complex the world situation may be, states with different social systems have a chance to reach an understanding on a mutually acceptable basis if only they really want it.

As for the Soviet Union it will make every effort at the conference to ensure that it results in the practical development of the Helsinki Final Act in important new accords.

Comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted that "the main way to achieve trust and to prevent all war, including that which may occur accidentally, is to halt the arms race and return to tranquil, proper relations between states, to detente." Fully in accordance with this fundamental guideline, the Stockholm speech by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR minister of foreign affairs, urged the conference participants to concentrate on large-scale means of strengthening confidence and security. The primary concern is to prevent a nuclear war.

As is known, the Soviet Union has unilaterally pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. The other nuclear powers have not yet made such a pledge. Can there be trust in their policy in these conditions? A pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons on the part of the other states possessing them could be a truly major contribution to strengthening confidence and security.

A mutual pledge by the states not to be the first to use either nuclear on conventional armaments, in other words, not to use force against one another, would be yet another major confidence measures. A corresponding treaty could also enshrine such important provisions as a pledge to act in the spirit of goodwill in the direction of ending the arms race and effecting disarmament and other provisions geared to generating an atmosphere of trust, developing cooperation, and easing military confrontation.

The other proposals by our country and the socialist community countries have great possibilities. They concern the problems of reducing military expenditure and ridding Europe of such barbaric weapons of mass destruction as chemical weapons. In the view of the USSR, the conference would be acting correctly if it devoted serious attention to the question of creating nuclear-free zones in various of parts of Europe, which is advocated by a number of states.

The Soviet Union is also proposing the elaboration of extra confidence-building measures in the military sphere, measures which are more significant in character and broader in scope and which are already being implemented in line with the Helsinki Final Act and have demonstrated their value [as published].

They include questions relating to notification of major military exercises, the limitation of the scale of exercises to a definite number of participants and major movements and redeployment of armed forces. The interests of peace and security would also be served by the notification of major air and naval exercises to be conducted in sea and ocean regions and airspace adjoining Europe.

In short, the Soviet Union is prepared to support any confidence- and security-building measures if they actually facilitate a real lessening of military confrontation. But let those who intend to use the Stockholm conference to obtain one-sided military advantages have no illusions.

The broad, constructive program put forward by the Soviet Union at the Stockholm conference made a strong impact in the hall and far beyond -- all over the world.

At the very start of the conference the leaders of foreign policy departments were in attendance. Stockholm saw a meeting of the Warsaw Pact states' foreign ministers and numerous bilateral contacts. And there was special interest in the Soviet Union's position, assessments, and views.

Of course, when you consider that the present U.S. Administration thinks in terms of war and is acting accordingly, trying to impose its aggressive policy on its NATO allies, the solution of the tasks facing the Stockholm conference is no easy matter. Nevertheless, the first days of the conference and the speeches by the delegates not only of the socialist, neutral, and nonaligned countries but even of a number NATO countries show that the world's dangerous drift toward the precipice can be halted. These are the kind of results the European peoples expect from the Stockholm conference. And their hopes must not be disappointed.

Washington's Verbal Exercises

The situation in Europe and throughout the world is dangerously tense. This is due to the aggressive policy of the United States and those who are going along with it.

The Soviet-American dialogue in the sphere of nuclear arms limitation in Europe was torpedoed through the fault of the U.S. Administration since Washington, instead of talks and a desire to seek an agreement, steered a course toward disrupting the established correlation of forces. The U.S. aim is to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union and NATO countries' superiority over the Warsaw Pact countries by means of a massive arms buildup Washington's wild plans to achieve world domination are being reinforced by unprecedented budget appropriations for military purposes.

U.S. militarism has graphically demonstrated its inhuman nature by its aggression in Lebanon and piratical, terrorist act in Grenada.

No wonder the U.S. plans and actions are causing growing protests and indignation on the part of the world's peoples. And we are not just talking about mass demonstrations and the collection of signatures for petitions. More and more often the United States is finding itself in a position of international isolation. This was very evident at the 38th UN General Assembly session, at which the United States had no reservations about setting itself against the international community on such urgent present-day problems as resolute condemnation of nuclear war, which has been declared a crime against the peoples: such as the appeal to freeze nuclear weapons and step up efforts to reach agreements as soon as possible on their substantial limitation and radical reduction; such as the recommendation on the need to take effective steps to prevent an arms race in space.

But there have been some new additions to U.S. policy's publicity wardrobe of late. Those who only recently were bleating overtly and cynically about a "preemptive" nuclear strike, the acceptability of "limited" nuclear war, and even the possibility of a general nuclear war with the hope of winning it are now talking about peace, beating their breast in an effort to assure the public that they are the most determined advocates of a peaceful solution to disputes.

On the eve of the opening of the Stockholm conference, U.S. President R. Reagan made a speech which was relayed on radio and television to Western Europe. The speech was mainly concerned with questions of mutual relations between the United States and the USSR, which are deeply worrying the U.S. and international public, and it was advertised in advance by official White House spokesmen as "conciliatory."

But let us look at the foreign press commentaries. Leaving aside the standard eulogies, the following remarks are significant.

THE NEW YORK TIMES: "The President says that the time has come for talks. It is a fitting and welcome position. But we would feel much calmer if he had done more to achieve this. He could have aided progress at the talks on limiting and reducing strategic armaments by ratifying the SALT II treaty. He could have sought a treaty banning nuclear weapons in space. He could have sought an all-embracing ban on nuclear tests. He could have done this and much more."

The ABC correspondent at the White House: "The President's invitation to resume the talks was not accompanied by any new proposals. And if Reagan intends to somehow alter his policy toward Moscow and not just to abandon inflammatory rhetoric, there was no sign of this in his speech at all."

The West German paper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU: "There is nothing in Reagan's speech that would lead to constructive progress in relations between Moscow and Washington. Reagan still thinks he can get the USSR to negotiate merely by pursuing a policy of strength."

Britain's DAILY MAIL: "Reagan's speech contained no new proposals, and all he did was declare his readiness to meet with the Russians."

The Japanese paper ASAHI: "Although Reagan's speech was couched in gentle tones, it proceeded from a position of strength..."

Words, words, words, then. But what the world needs is action, not Washington's verbal exercises. Statements about being ready to resume talks in conditions of the continuing deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe are merely verbal camouflage. The USSR warned more than once that the deployment of the missiles would undermine the basis for talks and make them impossible. The Soviet Union has said and reiterates that if the United States and the NATO countries show that they are prepared to return to the situation which existed before the U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles began to be deployed in Europe, our country will be prepared to do the same.

Futile Camouflage

What was it then that made the Washington "hawks" dress up in dove feathers? And what made them choose this moment for the masquerade?

Let us start by answering the second question. There is no doubt that what R. Reagan said on the eve of the opening of the Stockholm conference was no accident, and the same goes for the timing in the context of the domestic political struggle in the United States in the light of the presidential election which will take place in the fall.

NEWSWEEK magazine writes: "Reagan is aware that if he adopts a more friendly (?!) position this will help the United States in its propaganda war with the Russians, alleviate the fears of his European allies, whose nerves are showing, and reassure the U.S. voters who are apprehensive about the fact that he has his finger on the nuclear trigger."

Basically, it is these two circumstances -- foreign political and domestic political -- that contain the answer to the first question. In the eyes of broad circles of the international public and among considerable strata of the U.S. electorate the policy of the present U.S. Administration has been compromised. This applies in full to the notorious theory whereby the way to limit and reduce nuclear armaments is alledgedly to intensify the nuclear arms race and to create and deploy new means of mass destruction. Even those who hoped that the Reagan administration's "tough" policy toward the USSR and the socialist community would bear the desired fruit have been forced to admit that their hopes were illusory.

Here, for example, is what Clark Clifford, who THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR tells its readers is "a political sage, a real elder statesman," states in that paper: "privately some of Reagan's senior colleagues are voicing concern about whether the Russians will return to the arms control talks. They are beginning (!) to realize that the Russians, contrary to expectations, are not bending and are not yielding to the tough approach of the United States..."

Yes, U.S. policy is bound to cause growing anxiety among realistically minded politicians in the West, including the United States. As for Western Europe, it is worth quoting what David (Kalleo), director of the European Studies Program at Johns Hopkins University has to say on the subject. "In the European countries," he said, "a slow but, to all appearances, irreversible process is taking place in favor of coexistence with the Russians...The West Germans and other countries as well, albeit to varying degrees, are playing a big part in this process. It should not be forgotten that this Eastern policy was invented by France under De Gaulle. To offset this European policy, America is pursuing a totally different policy. Its relations with the Soviet Union constitute a cycle of alternating detente and confrontation...in the future it will become more and more difficult to reconcile the policy of straightforward evolution of evolution of detente in relations with USSR, which is pursued by the European countries, with the cyclical policy pursued by the United States."

For our part, and this was also stated in Stockholm, we would like to believe that the awareness that it is fatal to pursue a course based on substituting confrontation for cooperation, armament for talks, and first law for diplomacy is gaining the upper hand in U.S. leading circles. The cause of world peace as well as Soviet-American relations will profit by this.

MEDITERRANEAN STATES ADDRESS STOCKHOLM SESSION

LD231128 Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Stockholm January 23 TASS -- The Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, and Security and Disarmament in Europe is continuing in the Swedish capital. Today's session was addressed by representatives of several Mediterranean states which are not participating in the conference. They set forth their viewpoints on problems of ensuring security in the Mediterranean.

FIRST WEEK'S ACTIVITIES AT STOCKHOLM ASSESSED

Speeches End, Work Begins

LD202202 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Jan 84

[From the Vremya newscast; special correspondent Georgiy Zubkov video report on Stockholm conference]

[Text] At the Stockholm conference today the speeches by the heads of delegations of 35 European countries, United States, and Canada have ended. The foreign ministers assessed the present international situation and spelled out the positions of particular countries on such critical questions as the strengthening of confidence and security and disarmament. Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, head of the Soviet delegation, stressed that the conference could not be artificially separated from the European and world reality of today, from the impact of events taking place outside this hall's walls. But, as Comrade Gromyko stated, one would like to believe that understanding of the disastrous nature of the course based on substituting confrontation for cooperation, armaments for negotiations, the right of the fist for diplomacy, will prevail in the ruling circles of the United States.

After the introductory statements of ministers, the conference now begins its working days. Its participants are beginning concrete discussion of various measures for building-up confidence and security on the European Continent. The USSR will strive to ensure that in Stockholm the Helsinki Final Act will find practical development in new important accords. The USSR is a convinced supporter of the method of solving at the negotiating table international problems which have arisen. But any decisions on the measures for confidence and security must be taken on the basis of balance and reciprocity, of equal respect for the security interests of all states.

Ready for Constructive Review

LD210029 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1947 GMT 20 Jan 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] Ministers of foreign affairs have ended their speeches at the Stockholm conference. Thus, the first important stage of its work has taken place. Apparently, it is already possible to do some preliminary summing up. The majority of addresses reflected the deep concern of the peoples of Europe about the tense situation on the continent and in the world, the striving to continue to seek the solution of international problems through talks. A clear and consistent line is observed in speeches of representatives of socialist countries. They have singled out the necessity to stop resolutely the trend of the increase of tension for which the United States and NATO are to blame. They, in particular, have been making broad military preparations in recent years in order to destroy the existing balance of power between East and West. A clear example of this is the start of deployment of new U.S. nuclear medium-range missiles in a number of West European countries.

At the same time, socialist countries stress the importance of the Stockholm forum and have expressed readiness for a constructive review of various measures for the consolidation of trust and security in Europe. However, representatives of a number of NATO countries are attempting at the Stockholm conference to limit the discussion of problems of consolidation of trust and security among states to the discussion of military-technical questions. The only goal of some of these proposals is to obtain the possibility to collect information on questions of defense of socialist states. The aim of these proposals is obvious and as representatives of countries of the socialist community have said, such an approach cannot help to create a climate of trust on the continent. It can only harm the interests of security of European nations.

First Stage Trend Seen

LD202228 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] General debate at the level of ministers of foreign affairs ended today in Stockholm at the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security and Disarmament in Europe. Our Commentator Aleksandr Zholkver, our political observer, is at the microphone:

It is, of course, still too early to sum up the results of the very first stage of the Stockholm conference. However, some trends of its work can be seen. What is characteristic of the position of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries? It is the combination of complete truthfulness in the account of the danger of the present international situation, and deep conviction in the possibility of averting nuclear disaster.

Furthermore, the USSR and other Warsaw Treaty states presented in Stockholm a whole complex of concrete, constructive measures to reduce the military threat, for consolidation of trust in relations among various countries, and to increase their security. The main thing is to remove the primary cause of the present international tension -- to stop the arms race. And the Soviet Union suggests that all countries should conclude a treaty on mutual nonuse of military force. The core of the treaty would be the mutual rejection of first use of both nuclear and conventional weapons. The Soviet Union also suggests freeing Europe completely of nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical, as well as of chemical weapons.

The socialist countries have stated their readiness to work out broad measures of the consolidation of trust in the military sphere, to restrict the scale of military exercises, and to review the question of advance notification about large-scale movements of troops.

What position was taken in Stockholm by ministers of the NATO countries and above all of the United States? The U.S. paper THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR characterized this position like this: holding a stick while speaking of peace. Pershing and cruise missiles are the stick. In other words: to make statements in favor of peace but in fact to continue to deploy U.S. nuclear missiles in West Europe and to build up other types of Weapons, including chemical weapons and space weapons as is planned in the draft of the new, even vaster U.S. military budget. But you see, this is an unreasonable, dangerous position. And this was pointed out in Stockholm by Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko. Other ministers, including not only those from socialist countries, also spoke about this. These speeches reflected growing understanding of the fact that security is far out of proportion to the amount of stockpiled weapons. On the contrary, it is probably rather an inverse proportion.

As was also stressed by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, the main path toward trust, to averting any kind of war, including that which could start accidentally, is to stop the arms race, to return to peaceful, proper relations among governments, and to detente. At the conference in Stockholm, the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community have clearly shown their striving to actively contribute to this in the interest of consolidation of peace in Europe and the entire world.

Tests, Obstacles To Overcome

PM231154 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by special correspondents M. Zubko and N. Ivanov: "For Peace and Confidence"]

[Text] Stockholm -- The first week of the work of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security, and Disarmament in Europe has come to a close. The

discussion, in which foreign ministers of 33 European countries, the United States, and Canada took part, has finished. The official speeches at the opening of the conference, SVENSKA DAGBLADET writes, were only a prologue to the work of the international forum.

Few people would be brave enough to make forecasts or predict the development of events. The Stockholm forum has a long road to travel and, let us be frank about it, quite a few difficulties. It will have to pass a good many tests and overcome the obstacles which will, no doubt, arise along its road. This was clearly shown in the very first days of the conference's work.

The international forum opened under tense conditions in the world. Does this give grounds for an optimistic evaluation of the Stockholm forum's chances? It is hardly possible to give a simple answer to this question.

The Madrid meeting of the representatives of countries participating in the all-European conference showed very clearly that, even under the conditions of a tense international situation, states with different social systems can reach agreement on a mutually acceptable basis. The convening of the conference in Stockholm is a convincing example of this.

Now that all the speeches have been delivered at the opening of the conference, it has become clear who brought what political "baggage" to the Swedish capital. Right from the start there was an attempt by some Western politicians to substitute general appeals for businesslike dialogue on confidence, security, and disarmament measures. Journalists calculated that the speech by FRG Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher repeated more than 20 times the words "cooperation," "dialogue," and "security." There was no room for specific proposals in his speech. Expressing general approval of the Soviet initiative to ban the use of chemical weapons, the West German minister immediately added that the proposal requires additional study. This example is, on the whole, typical of the positions held by the United States and its NATO allies.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries arrived in Stockholm with the firm desire to conduct a constructive businesslike dialogue aimed at creating conditions for peaceful development on the European continent.

From the very first day of the international forum the Warsaw Pact countries clearly and unambiguously declared that they stand firmly on the ground of the Stockholm conference's mandate as agreed in Madrid. It notes, in particular, that any decisions on confidence and security measures must be taken on the basis of equal rights, a balanced approach, and mutual and identical respect for the interests of the security of all states participating in the conference. "We are advocating that the implementation of accords, if they can be reached, is not shelved," USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko stressed in his conference speech. This line followed by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries corresponds with the interests of peace and security. It is aimed at the goal of raising a reliable barrier across the path of the arms race and creating conditions to consolidate the climate of confidence and cooperation on the continent.

The proposals made at the conference by the USSR foreign minister provide a realistic basis for creating an atmosphere of confidence and strengthening security in Europe.

The Warsaw Pact countries have proposed cleansing the European Continent of nuclear weapons and concluding a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations. The Soviet Union and the other socialist states have spoken out in favor of establishing nuclear-free zones in various parts of Europe, including the North of the continent -- is this not an example of a businesslike approach to the conference?

The peoples expect it to make a weighty contribution to strengthening confidence and world peace.

EAST, WEST POSITIONS AT STOCKHOLM CONTRASTED

West Puts 'Stakes on Force'

LD201920 Moscow TASS in English 1903 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- TASS News Analyst Vasilly Kharkov writes:

While the Soviet Union's position is that no opportunity or chance be missed in order to reduce nuclear arms on the basis of equality and equal security of the parties, the West, as the American CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR newspaper remarked on Thursday, still "holds the stick in its hands." In other words, glibly alleging their desire for a dialogue with the Soviet Union, the USA and its NATO partners are, as before, putting their stakes on force.

The Soviet Union regards preventing a nuclear war as a vast means for building confidence and safeguarding security. This was stressed by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko in his statement at the Stockholm conference. Commitment by states possessing nuclear weapons not to be the first to use them would be a most reliable measure capable of removing the nuclear threat from mankind.

For its part, the West -- and this is borne out with special clarity by the statement made at the conference by the FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher -- maintains that the questions of nuclear disarmament "cannot be the subject for discussion at Stockholm." Thus, the West does not regard them as an important contribution to confidence-building.

In June 1982, as is known, the USSR undertook a unilateral commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. That Soviet initiative was justly appreciated by the world public which saw the Soviet leadership's statement as a major practical step which, if matched by similar steps on the part of the other nuclear powers, would have constituted a radically new departure in the matter of confidence-building.

The other nuclear powers failed, however, to follow suit, and have not yet committed themselves not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. And judging by everything, they are not going to do that.

The truth of the nuclear age is that the higher the level of nuclear confrontation, the greater the risk of sliding down toward a nuclear conflict. The past wars, including the Second World War, have been great tragedies, but today's reality is that a nuclear conflict, should it break out, could destroy the human civilisation. That is why the non-nuclear states are equally concerned to see the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons assumed by the nuclear powers.

The Soviet Union's approach to this major issue -- and this was demonstrated once again by the statement of the Soviet Union minister at the Stockholm conference -- is based on common sense, realism and the sense of profound responsibility for the destinies of peace. The adoption of adequate measures capable of removing the nuclear threat and thus enhancing confidence meets the interests of all mankind.

Necessary Measures Cited

LD210008 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] General debate is drawing to a close at the Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures, security, and disarmament in Europe. Here is a commentary from our observer Viktor Olenichev and this is what he writes:

The Stockholm forum has evoked intense interest. After the U.S. Administration torpedoed Soviet-American negotiations on limiting nuclear weapons in Europe, great hopes are pinned on the conference in Sweden's capital. Naturally, it cannot substitute the Geneva talks because it has different goals but millions of people expect this gathering of representatives of 35 countries to become a breakthrough and melt the ice of mistrust.

This cannot be done with the help of rhetoric, however sophisticated it might be. The rhetoric Washington politicians have been resorting to lately serves only to deceive nations. The world situation can be mended only by concrete action. Such a position has been maintained by the Soviet Union all along.

In Stockholm, it has expressed readiness to consider a wide range of measures on building up trust and security. As the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko said, they should include major agreements, military and political by nature, since restricting oneself by any one field would mean narrowing the existing opportunities. It is hard to build the structure of trust under the protection of American Pershing and cruise missiles, which represent a serious threat to peace. For this reason, the issue of averting nuclear war is of paramount importance. How stronger trust would be if the nuclear states assumed a commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, the way the Soviet Union did unilaterally more than a year and a half ago. And wouldn't the world political climate become better if the Warsaw Treaty Organization and the North Atlantic alliance signed an agreement on the mutual non-use of military force. This means to renounce the use of both nuclear and conventional arms. Such was the meaning attached to this proposal by its initiators, the socialist countries. They believe that an agreement like that could be joined by other nations not belonging to military alliances, neutral and nonaligned. Peace would only benefit from this. Surely trust would also be consolidated if Europe were made free of chemical weapons and if military expenditures were cut. This too has been underlined by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. Their foreign ministers have reaffirmed in Stockholm the desire to discuss any other measures to lessen military antagonism.

Differences in social and political systems are not an obstacle for agreements. That was proved convincingly in 1975 in Helsinki and then last year in Madrid. By showing good will and honoring the principle of equality and equal security, it is always possible to find areas of contact and to reach accord. This is the only way to consolidate the relaxation of tension and multiply its fruit.

'Doubts' on West's Sincerity

LD211911 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Speeches have been heard in the general discussion at the Stockholm conference on confidence and security building measures and disarmament in Europe from the foreign ministers of all the 35 participating countries.

During this discussion, writes our commentator Viktor Ilichev, the speakers proclaimed a desire for peace and pointed up the importance of promoting confidence between the nations. However, as one takes a look at the speeches by the U.S. State Secretary Shultz and by the foreign ministers of other NATO countries it is difficult to refrain from doubts about the sincerity of their peaceable declarations.

To use an image, these declarations were made under the shadow of the Pershings and Tomahawks, the first-strike American nuclear missiles that began to be deployed in Western Europe a month ago. These missiles do not carry security to Europe by any means. Quite to the contrary, they undermine international security. Militarism, hostility and war scare are being brought to Western Europe along with them. The point was made in a speech in Stockholm by the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko. He made a reminder that the Soviet Union together with our friends and allies has proposed clearing Europe of nuclear weapons, both medium range and tactical. Wouldn't that be the best, the most drastic solution? Wouldn't confidence strengthen if the nuclear powers pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons? I may remind you that the Soviet Union has already made this pledge, unilaterally.

Another major confidence building measure would be to have an agreement concluded between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries about mutual non-use of armed force. The socialist countries that have proposed such an agreement feel the accord would amount to renunciation of use of both nuclear and conventional arms. Other countries could join such a treaty. That was another point made in Stockholm. The Soviet Union and the other countries within the socialist community have also suggested discussing and taking a whole number of other steps to turn for the better the current development of events. For instance, military spending could be reduced, Europe could be rid of chemical weapons and nuclear free zones could be set up.

The socialist countries reject any attempts to lead the Stockholm conference away from the cardinal problems of promoting confidence, security and peace among the nations. The Soviet leader, Yuriy Andropov, stressed this. He said our foreign policy, just as in the times of Lenin, amounts to our peaceable interests with regards to all the nations of the world. We shall never diverge from this Leninist course.

'Possibility' for Agreement

LD220649 Moscow TASS in English 0621 GMT 22 Jan 84

["Sliding Into Abyss Must Be Checked" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 22 TASS -- The very fact of the convocation of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, and Security and Disarmament in Europe, for which the Soviet Union pressed for long, shows that no-one in the world today can ignore the peoples' will for peace and cooperation, the national daily PRAVDA said today. This fact also shows at the same time, it went on, that, no matter how seriously aggravated the international situation may be, states with different social systems still have possibilities to reach agreement, if they seek it, on a mutually acceptable basis.

As to the Soviet Union, it will exert every effort at this conference for the Helsinki Final Act to be followed up as a result of its work with new and important accords.

The Soviet Union is prepared to support any measures to build confidence and strengthen security if they really can facilitate the scaling down of military confrontation. But let those, who might decide on trying to use the Stockholm conference to secure themselves unilateral military advantages, entertain no such illusions, PRAVDA warned.

Of course, the fact that the incumbent U.S. Administration thinks in the categories of war and acts accordingly, foisting its aggressive policy on the NATO allies, does not make it easy to accomplish the taks facing the Stockholm conference. Even so, the very first days of its work, speeches by delegates of not only socialist, neutral and non-aligned countries but also of a number of NATO member states have shown that the world's dangerous sliding into the precipice can be checked. It is such results that the people in Europe are expecting from the Stockholm conference, and their hopes must not be dashed.

Shultz 'Screening' Plan Hit

LD232256 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2210 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow, 24 Jan (TASS) -- "The conference in Stockholm did not accept the main postulate of American foreign Policy, claiming that 'with the help of force,' so to speak, one can obtain security," special PRAVDA correspondents Vladimir Mikhaylov and Mikhail Kostikov write from Stockholm. "The essence of the speech made by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz has put many participants in the confernce on the alert," they stress. G. Shultz not only justified the deployment of new missiles in Western Europe, by which he showed that Washington is not even considering, in reality, any resumption of the Geneva talks, but the head of the U.S. foreign policy department tried to put into question the existing borders in Europe. According to Shultz, "the source of instability and tension" is "the division of Europe and one of its greatest nations." It is a well known fact that it was precisely with this kind of nationalistic phraseology that the American organizers of the fifties "Cold War" pushed the FRG toward a rejection of the postwar borders in Europe and stirred up its pretensions to the lands of other states."

The authors stress that recognition of the inviolability of state borders and of the territorial inviolability of European countries was introduced into the Helsinki Final Act as a main prerequisite for peace and cooperation in Europe.

"The encroachment on this undertaken in Stockholm was received here as a direct provocation against the bases of the Helsinki process," the dispatch stresses.

"Shultz attempted to impose on the participants in the forum a plan for so-called 'thorough screening' [prosvechivaniye] in Europe under the guise of measures to strengthen confidence and security, the authors note. In the circles of experts taking part in the conference, this proposal is seen "as composed under dictation from the Pentagon and NATO." Its aim is to reveal the defense structure of all European countries not belonging to the North Atlantic military bloc, and primarily the Soviet Union and other European socialist countries. At the same time, however, the United States, the main NATO military force, would not be checked.

"The United States practically came to the conference rostrum empty handed," the PRAVDA correspondents note.

"In essence they made not a single realistic proposal to limit military activity or to lower the level of military confrontation on the European Continent."

"The force and attractiveness of the positions of the socialist countries at the Stockholm conference were evident in that they not only showed the real reasons for the sharp worsening of the situation in the world, but put forward a whole set of large-scale measures to strengthen trust and security, primarily with regard to the prevention of nuclear war, the correspondents' report states. The Soviet Union's initiative in this respect in undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons also had an effect on the participants of the Stockholm conference."

"Now that the first week of the conference's work is over, there are substantial grounds for saying that the position of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries has been met with understanding from a number of neutral and nonaligned states," the authors conclude.

West's 'Narrow' Measures

LD232152 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Jan 84

[From the Vremya newscast; special correspondent Georgiy Zubkov video report from Stockholm]

[Text] This building in the center of Stockholm appeared relatively recently, but it can be considered one of the most famous in the Swedish capital. It is here that the Stockholm conference involving 35 countries is being held. The first week of its work has ended. Following the speeches by foreign affairs ministers and heads of delegation, the participants in the conference are starting to discuss concrete ideas and proposals. When adopted, they will become the measures for building confidence and security which are called upon to lessen the risk of military confrontation in Europe. The Soviet Union, sincerely striving to create an atmosphere of confidence, together with the other countries of socialism, favors these measures being effective and large-scale. They are measures such as, let us say, an undertaking of states possessing nuclear weapons not to be the first to use them, and an undertaking not to use either nuclear or conventional weapons against each other. In other words, not to use force. Further, measures such as freeing Europe from chemical weapons, reducing military spending, and creating nuclear-free zones in various parts of the continent.

As for the United States and its NATO allies, here one observes a tendency to spotlight insignificant, narrow, and technical measures. Of course, in itself, elaborating confidence measures is a complex and lengthy matter. Last week was only the first step toward big and difficult work. The first phase of the conference, which envisages the elaboration of confidence and security building measures, is due according to plan to be completed only by 1986. The results of the work will be placed at the basis of the second phase of the conference, where it will already be a question of measures for disarmament.

WPC ACCUSES U.S. OF 'CRIMINAL ACT AGAINST PEACE'

LD231257 Moscow TASS in English 1219 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] West Berlin January 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Borisov and Vladimir Shtykov report:

The participants in the current extraordinary session of the Presidential Committee of the World Peace Council (WPC) have adopted an appeal addressed to all peace forces of the world.

The appeal points out that by having started the deployment of "Pershing-2" and cruise missiles in the FRG, Britain, and Italy, the United States has trampled the peoples' will expressed, in particular, through the biggest mass manifestations ever held. Thereby Washington has committed a criminal act against world peace.

The deployment of U.S. missiles, the documents point out, has blown up the Soviet-American talks on reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe. Other disarmament talks have been also adversely affected. A new, unprecedented and dangerous round of the arms race has been provoked. The international situation has been sharply aggravated.

Those who bluntly declare the admissiblity of a "limited" nuclear war and the possibility to win it, who declared a "crusade" against the socialist countries, have stationed the new first-strike nuclear missiles at the doorstep of the USSR and its allies, WPC points out. These missiles are also a threat to the developing nations and indeed to the whole world. International terrorism has been elevated to state policy which has already resulted in the armed butchery of tiny Grenada, the aggression in Lebanon, the undeclared war and hostile actions against Nicaragua and in the collusion with the racist regime of South Africa. WPC is striking alarm in connection with the fact that those forces in their hazardous gambling on world destinies just as irresponsibly can overstep the brink beyond which lies the extinction of humanity.

The growing resistance all over the world to the development of U.S. missiles, in particular in those countries where the deployment has already begun, is vivid evidence that the peace movement will never surrender to nuclear blackmail. This mass movement gives hope that the present situation can be reversed. In this connection WPC urges all peace forces to act with even more energy and determination to attain an end to further deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe and the removal of the new U.S. missiles already deployed in Europe. It emphasizes the need to restore the situation that existed in the West and in the East prior to the start of the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe and thus create the necessary conditions for the resumption of honest and businesslike talks on the reduction of nuclear arms.

The Soviet Union and other socialist countries have declared, the document points out, that in case of the restoration of the former situation there would be no need for countermeasures which they are compelled to take in order to neutralize the threat posed by the new U.S. missiles. The USSR would also be prepared to revive its earlier proposals on the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe, including unilateral commitments.

Equal security is the only real basis for the reduction of nuclear arms both in the West and in the East up to their total liquidation, the document emphasizes. The World Peace Council calls upon all peace forces to continue with new vigour the struggle against NATO's ominous plans. The mighty peace movement through the combined efforts of all its participants can make all the governments listen to the voice of reason and peace, WPC points out.

PALME, BRANDT COMMISSIONS MEET IN ROME

PM231433 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent N. Pakin dispatch: "Against the Military Threat"]

[Text] Rome -- The independent commission on questions of disarmament and security headed by Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme and the commission on questions of international development headed by Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, have held their first joint session here. The attention of these representative commissions, which will meet for 3 days, will focus on questions of the interdependence between the economic crisis of the world capitalist system, the arms race, and international security.

The participants in the session emphasized in their speeches their concern at the deterioration of the international situation. "The exacerbation of relations between East and West," Italian Prime Minister B. Craxi noted, "involves the risk of raising doubts about the present and the future, about peace and the peoples' development." Olof Palme spoke out in favor of the Stockholm conference leading to the reaching of specific agreements. Referring to scientific opinion, he declared that "an exchange of nuclear strikes would result in a climate of arctic winter on earth" and called for the implementation of a maximum reduction in nuclear arsenals.

The antiwar orientation of the Rome meeting was not to the liking of the champions of an unrestrained nuclear arms race. L. Longo, leader of the Italian Social Democrat Party and member of the Italian Government, who is well know for his pro-American feelings, demonstratively declared his refusal to participate in the meeting. Washington's "f fth column" in the land of the Appenines was set in motion. A pro-Reagan ultrareactionary group, the so-called "European Workers Party," which set itself the task of wrecking the commission's work, held a gathering at Rome's Universo Hotel on the eve of the meeting.

SMITH'S RESIGNATION NOTED; RECORD REVIEWED

LD232325 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1455 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jan (TASS) -- TASS commentator Vadim Biryukov writes:

William French Smith, the U.S. attorney general, has resigned. News agencies report that this step is linked with his intention to return to California and take up private business. This may be so, but there is no doubt that the reasons for the resignation are rather more serious and are directly related to the presidential election campaign that is gaining momentum in the United States.

Smith is the sixth member of Reagan's cabinet to abandon the presidential ship ahead of schedule. Until now, no one has done so without sufficiently serious reasons. It is well known that in 1982, Smith was subjected to criticism by Democrats for hiding income with the purpose of tax evasion. The U.S. press claims he hurriedly paid all his debts to the Treasury, striving to avoid further attacks.

During his stay in the attorney general's office, Smith proved to be a true defender of big business. He dealt with far more cases of violations of the law by monopolies than any of his predecessors. Moreover, these cases mainly concerned small companies.

Smith also became "famous" for measures which set back the struggle of U.S. national minorities for their civil rights by many years. In particular, in January 1982 he sanctioned the abolition of taxes on private educational establishments from which the racists banned negroes. He also refused to examine cases linked with the violation of legislation adopted in the 1960's on the desegregation of U.S. schools.

In Smith's time, the "race quotas" were abolished. These envisaged the hiring for work of a certain percentage of minorities at enterprises and firms receiving orders from the federal authorities. Allegedly, these quotas question the existence of democracy in the United States and that is despite the fact that there exist in the country numerous laws which are openly racist. For example, in Louisiana there is a law in force by which any person whose blood is only 1/32 negro is considered in the United States to be a negro.

Smith proposed that the force of a law adopted in 1965 which somewhat limited the tyranny of racists at elections -- especially those in the southern states of the country -- should not be extended, or that at least it should be limited.

One cannot exclude the possibility that the White House has decided to get rid of a tainted racist by suggesting to him that he "resign." Indeed, the current President has an interest in winning over to his side as many votes as possible from the representatives of national minorities at the forthcoming elections.

MEESE, CABINET RESHUFFLE TIED TO 'REAGANGATE'

LD240027 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2230 GMT 23 Jan 84

[From "The World Today" program; by Igor Fesunenko]

[Excerpts] The White House has announced the resignation of William Smith as U.S. attorney general. This is the sixth member of Reagan's cabinet who has had to leave his post. His resignation is the latest testimony to the fierce squabbles raging in the administration. The press links the new reshuffle with Reagangate.

It has been decided to appoint Edwin Meese, the president's adviser to the post as attorney general. Incidentally, he is one of the main actors in Reagangate.

REAGAN POST INTERVIEW 'COCK-AND-BULL STORIES'

LD231747 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1618 GMT 23 Jan 84

[By TASS political observer Valdimir Goncharov]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jan (TASS) -- And on the 1,091st day of his Presidency, Ronald Reagan said....

What did the present master of the White House say when on 16 January of this year he received WASHINGTON POST correspondents on the occasion of the third anniversary of his taking office as U.S. President? (the interview was published on 22 January)

If we try to give the most laconic and definitive answer to this question, it can only be this: Reagan told fairy tales and cock-and-bull stories. Many cock-and-bull stories on the most varied topics...

Take for example the question of the arms race and its qualitatively new and highly dangerous spiral, which Reagan embarked upon as soon as he moved into the White House. Replying to this question, endeavoring to justify his actions, Reagan started telling a fairy tale, alleging that by the time he took office "in the field of defense, U.S. national security had been greatly undermined." As we can see, the fairytale is far from new, and has been many times refuted by authoritative U.S. political and state figures and U.S. press organs.

Further, Reagan was asked: "Do you consider Americans feel more secure now than before you were elected President?" Reagan replied: "The American people really have begun to feel so." What can one say about such a reply? Only that it is utterly refuted by the movement in the United States, unprecedented in recent years, against Reagan's policy, which is increasing the danger of a nuclear disaster and drawing the country into nuclear war.

While surveying the tally of other cock-and-bull tales composed by Reagan, one could cite his assertions that the inhabitants of Grenada allegedly welcomed the U.S. intervention against this little Caribbean state. But perhaps his most picturesque fairy tale is his reply to a question concerning the aim of sending U.S. Armed Forces to Lebanon.

Let us listen to what Reagan had to say: "Our American Marines arrived in Lebanon and were well received by the people. The fact is that our Marines --and this is so typical of Americans -- very soon organized a lot of good things for the children. They taught them, played ball with them, and did many other things like that." But it turns out that the charitable works of the U.S. Marines did not end here. It emerges that "quite a lot of progress has been achieved," and, in particular, "the departure of Israel has been implemented"!!!

The effect of this fantastic statement was evidently sogreat that Reagan realized that he had let his tongue run away with him. So he was obliged to correct himself slightly, declaring that Israel "had not completely withdrawn its troops." But when the journalists, so to speak, "turned the heat" on Reagan, demanding an answer to the question -- what was the aim of sending U.S. troops to Lebanon (apart from the aforementioned "playing ball with Lebanese children")? -- Reagan answered with an enigmatic sentence in the manner of Baba-Yaga and other fairy-tale characters. "The main aim," he said, "was the withdrawal of foreign troops." We shall ponder this: U.S. troops, according to Reagan were sent to Lebanon with the aim of achieving the withdrawal of foreign troops. How clever!

One may cite many other truly fantastic statements by the American President made during the 1,091st day of his term in the White House. For example, speaking about the domestic situation, he claimed, in spite of widely known and obvious facts, that "Reaganomics" "to a considerable degree gives more to those who are at the bottom of the economic ladder," that is, he clarified, to representatives of national minorities and other poor people.

In a word, Reagan's statements fully confirm the justness of what THE NEW YORK TIMES said about Reagan: When he says "Well, that just isn't true" in a tone of outraged innocence, then you can bet that it jolly well is the truth. And the reverse is true, too. Let us recall what H. Caldicott, the president of the American organization "Doctors in the Struggle for Social Responsibility," said recently: "I spent over an hour in coversation with President Reagan, and his daughter, and practically all he told me was untrue."

So, together with his reputation as a bellicose militarist and an irresponsible politician, Reagan has already acquired the firm reputation -- to put it mildly -- of a teller of fairy tales.

However, there are all kinds of fairy tales. The "Tales of 1,001 Nights" are jolly, amusing, and wise. The tales that Reagan tells are chiefly dangerous, for they hide a brutal adventurist policy that is damaging to the interests of the peoples and to the cause of peace.

U.S. LET 'GENIE OF CONFRONTATION' OUT OF BOTTLE

LD232317 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 23 Jan 84

[From "The Way We See It" program; Aleksandr Bovin commentary]

[Text] Wouldn't it be nice if the end of the year would put an end to the year's problems? Only it doesn't, and after the New Year, Washington still faces the same old problems that were there a year ago. Now a commentary by Aleksandr Bovin, an IZVESTIYA analyst:

The No 1 problem of the United States is the crisis it faces in the area of the relaxation of tensions. Back in the early seventies the United States and the Soviet Union took the first steps toward international relaxation, but the Americans failed to pass the test. The philosophy of international relaxation is much more complex than the thinking behind a policy of confrontation. It requires major intellectual efforts to perceive the causes of the changes in the world and modify political actions accordingly, in line with other nations' interests as well as your own, and to realize the limitations of strength and the preposterous nature of the arms race. All this does not fit into the traditional patterns of political thinking and the Americans were unable to overcome this hurdle.

A new book by a Texan journalist, Ronnie Dugger, has just been published in the United States; it's called "On Reagan: The Man and His Presidency," and it says what Reagan preaches with respect to the Soviet Union is best described by the notion of the devil.

In Reagan's mind, Moscow is not only the capital of communism, but the capital of everything revolutionary that there is in the world today. Hence, Israel is a factor restraining Soviet expansionist efforts and the United States must provide military aid to the anti-Marxist rebels in Afghanistan and Angola. Cuba is the Soviet Union in the Caribbean and Nicaragua the paw of the Russian bear.

Ronnie Dugger goes on to say that the application of Reagan's notion of the devil to any revolutionary movement is obvious. No matter how rotten and bloodthirsty a rightist dictatorship, or however corrupt and repressive a military junta may be, any revolutionaries fighting against those governments are communists directed by Moscow. Any leftist or even reformist movement is communist to Reagan. Reagan's notion of the devil lays the ground for McCarthyism on a worldwide scale.

So much for theory. Now something about corresponding practices. The newspaper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR has commented on the sentiments and intentions of the Reagan administration, saying that reaching an arms control agreement with the Soviet Union is not regarded by the administration as an urgent political task, either next year or after Reagan's first term of office expires.

The end of last year saw a radical change in the European situation. Despite all the warnings from the Soviet Union and protests from the European public, the United States brought its new missiles to Europe. The West claims those missiles offset the Soviet SS-20's but the NATO supreme commander in Europe, General Rogers, has admitted that the United States would have carried out the modernization just the same, with or without the SS-20's. And it certainly would because the deployment of new missiles in Western Europe suits the Americans. They believe a nuclear conflict can be limited to an exchange of nuclear strikes in Europe which would divert the threat of total destruction from the United States itself.

What is not clear though is why some West European politicians are so happy about all this. In a word, the United States and its West European allies caused a major deterioration of the political situation in Europe last year by sending it into another spiral of the arms race. They've let the genie of confrontation out of the bottle, mindless of the tremendous efforts it may take to get it back inside.

'PATHOLOGICAL CRAZE' SEEN IN REAGAN PRESIDENCY

LD202259 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] January 20th is 3 years since President Reagan was inaugurated as President of the United States. About his administration, here is a commentary by Yuriy Soltan:

As he looks back at his White House years, President Reagan cannot help praising himself. In his recent speech, he argued that his Presidency had made the world a safer place to live in. So spoke a President who had ordered the bandit attack on Grenada, who had sent American forces to wreak death and destruction in Lebanon, and who had beaten all previous records concerning the growth of military spending in the United States. President Reagan also said that the enemy must go to sleep every night in fear that American might resort to nuclear weapons.

It is fear, based on American military power, that in President Reagan's view is the road to a secure world. But secure for whom? Can it be secure for those whom he threatens with his nuclear clout? Or would it be secure for the Americans, who, should the worst happen, would be there to feel the nuclear scourge? Such questions have been put to Americans, and they, in summing up the past 3 years of Reagan in office, said his administration's course had dramatically added to the war danger. And they are correct. The present U.S. Administration thinks in categories of war, and acts accordingly. At the beginning of his term, President Reagan said what could be argued was which weapons America needed and which not. It was absolutely beside the point to argue whether it should give up weapons for the sake of talks and agreements which, as he put it, were simply scraps of paper.

With a pathological craze, his administration set about building new missiles, bombers, submarines, and neutron, chemical, and space weapons. It ruined the dialogue with the Soviet Union about limiting nuclear arms in Europe, and caused the talks on limiting and reducing strategic arms to be suspended. And it has committed an offense against world peace by beginning to deploy its new first-strike nuclear missiles in Western Europe. Instead of negotiations and a striving to seek agreements, the Reagan administration has moved to break the established balance of strength. It hopes, by beefing up its nuclear potential, to gain military superiority. This, the American strategists believe, could bring them victory in a nuclear war. And they have already worked out scenarios for such wars, and the President has with his own hand endorsed directives to prepare for them.

In his statements of 28 September last year, the Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov said the present U.S. Administration was following a militarist course in international affairs, creating a serious threat to peace. The essence of this course is to disregard the interests of other states and peoples and to try to assure the United States dominant positions in the world. People would like to believe that the ruling circles of the United States will come to see the harmful nature of this course, which is based on substituting confrontation for co-operation, armament for negotiation, and force for diplomacy. But so far, there has been no sign that would make one hope of the Reagan administration's policy taking a turn for the better.

REAGAN POLICY ASSESSED IN 'FINISHING STRAIGHT'

LD192152 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1741 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] On 20 January it will be 3 years since the present U.S. President officially became master of the White House. With what is President Reagan now emerging into the finishing straight -- as the saying goes -- in international affairs, having covered three-fourths of his presidential term? I asked our commentator Boris Andrianov to tell us about this.

[Andrianov] The Reagan administration was long ago christened the millionnaires' government. It is dominated by owners of property whose value runs to six figures and more. The Reagan team speaks for the interests of big military business, represented by the most reactionary and aggressive circles of monopolist capital. It is precisely these who put the present Washington administration in power. The U.S. ruling class has testified to the fact that it has not withstood the test of detente, nor that of peaceful cooperation. It obviously could not stomach these. The holders of power in the United States do not wish to think in terms of equality, only in terms of supremacy. All this has been reflected in the course taken by the master of the White House in the world arena, where the core of this policy is to gamble on strength. This lies at the basis of Washington's constant attempts to tilt in its favor the rough military-strategic parity, which has been established in Europe and the world, to recarve the political map of the planet while ruling the world.

Speaking from the podium of the Stockholm conference, Cormade Gromyko stressed that the present U.S. Administration is one that thinks in terms of war, and acts accordingly. He pointed out that the aggressive U.S. foreign policy is the main threat to peace. The White House continually invents new artificial pretexts to extend the U.S. military presence many thousands of kilometers from U.S. territory, although the total number of U.S. military installations and bases situated in 32 countries already exceeds 1,500. Besides these hotbeds of aggression, bridgeheads for direct armed interference in the affairs of other states are being set up in order to put U.S. arms to use against any country that refuses Washington's diktat.

This militarist policy has already led to a growth in tension in all regions of the world. All the indications are that the Reagan administration intends to continue following this course. For all to hear it proclaims practically the whole world a sphere of U.S. vital interests. Washington bears the full weight of responsibility for the undeclared war it has unleashed against the Afghan people, who have chosen the path of a free life. Acting hand-in-hand with the Israeli Zionists, the Reagan team has sanctioned mass terror against the Arab population of Lebanon. It was none other than the White House that organized the bandit attack by the U.S. military on Grenada, and the White House that organizes provocations against Nicaragua, inspires South African bandit raids against Angola, and threatens Cuba. This list of such crimes is far from complete.

Now that the election campaign is getting underway in the United States, the master of the White House has made free with statements with a view appearing in the role of peacemaker, champion of disarmament, and fighter against nuclear war. However, as Comrade Gromyko remarked in Stockholm, what is needed is actions, not the verbal exercises to which Washington has resorted particularly frequently of late.

'INVETERATE SWINDLERS' LINKED TO REAGAN CAMPAIGN

LD231332 Moscow TASS in English 1312 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Maksim Knyazkov reports:

There is really no end in sight to scandals rocking the U.S. capital. This time the "Reagan-Bush-84" election committee has been caught in highly questionable "business contacts". It has turned out that with a view to raising money for the election campaign, President Reagan and his closest assistant do not disdain collaboration even with the most inveterate swindlers.

The newspaper WASHINGTON POST has reported that the committee has arranged it together with the management of a big American trade corporation to jointly hold a mass meeting in Atlanta with the participation of the present occupant of the White House. The two sides concerned hope to turn the meeting to advantage. The corporation intends to sell seven thousand tickets for this political show at a considerable price and, besides, to distribute video casettes with the recording of the meeting, which will also bring it a sizeable profit.

THE WASHINGTON POST points out that the organizers of Reagan's election campaign will also get their share of the incomes.

According to U.S. standards, all this would look rather harmless but for one circumstance: The corporation with which Reagan and his entourage maintain so close relationships is far from being scrupulous. In November last year a Canadian court found it guilty of fraud and failure to pay trade duties and sentenced it to a fine of 20 million dollars. But at this the corporation's "service record" does not end. According to the U.S. Internal Revenue Bureau, the corporation helps its clients to evade payment of taxes and is not averse to forging financial documents.

All this certainly is no secret to the White House. But how can one ignore cooperation even with overt swindlers if they are so lavish in election donations! During the 1980 election campaign the corporation's directors donated about 140,000 dollars to the Republicans, and this year, judging by everything, they will donate a no lesser sum of money. In exchange the Reagan administration will of course shut its eyes to new machinations of enterprising dealers, as it has done before.

U.S. PLANS FOR CRUISE MISSILES IN JAPAN HIT

'Serious Danger' Seen

PM231143 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Jan 84 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "The Pentagon's Siniser Plans"]

[Text] Tokyo, 21 Jan -- The Pentagon's sinister plans to shortly site the latest nuclear-capable F-16 fighter-bombers at the USAF Misawa Base (Aomori Prefecture), as well as to equip U.S. 7th Fleet ships deployed at Japanese ports with Tomahawk cruise missiles, are arousing deep concern in the Japanese public. The siting in Japan of U.S. nuclear weapon carries is fraught with the most serious danger for the country's population, the newspaper AKAHATA stresses. The Reagan administration's aggressive plans, backed by a conservative government, are fraught with the danger of drawing Japan into nuclear conflict and are a real threat to its security.

Each Tomahwak cruise missile, whose installation on U.S. ships will begin this June, can carry a nuclear charges 15 times more powerful than the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima by the U.S. military, the paper stresses. The arming of the U.S. 7th Fleet surface ships and submarines based in the ports of Yokosuka and Sasebo and in Okinawa with this lethal weapon exposes Washington's aggressive aspirations, which run counter to the Japanese people's fundamental interests and hopes, AKAHATA points out.

Demonstrations Held

LD240724 Moscow TASS in English 0655 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Tokyo January 24 TASS -- The plans of the U.S. military to equip the ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet deployed in Japanese ports with "Tomahawk" cruise missiles having nuclear warheads have evoke profound concern of the Japanese democratic public. In protest against these dangerous palns whose realisation, approved by the Japanese authorities, is to be started next June, mass anti-war meetings and demonstrations were held in a number of biggest Japanese cities. They were organized on the initiative of the Central Committee of the struggle for the cancellation of the "security treaty" and the satisfying of the demands of the people. The anti-war actions which were attended by representatives of various sections of the population were keynoted by the slogans "No to American Cruise Missiles in Japan", "Down with the 'Security Treaty'".

'RECONNAISSANCE' USE FOR JAPAN SATELLITE SCORED

LD211756 Moscow TASS in English 0913 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 21 TASS -- Outer space ambitions of Japanese generals and admirals cannot but be the cause of concern both in Japan itself and beyond it, writes today the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

A few months ago the Cabinet of Ministers of Japan allowed the Japanese Defence Agency to partially use for its purposes the Sakura-2A communication satellite, which was launched early in 1983.

Formally, the Japan Defence Agency requested such a permission allegedly "exclusively" for communication with the Army garrison, stationed on remote Ogasawara Islands. But it is absolutely clear, writes KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, that the command of the "Self-Defence Force" need sputnik communication not just "exclusively" for that.

The real cause why the military need the Sakura-2A sputnik is that Tokyo, to please Washington, took the decision to take a 1,000-mile zone from the archipelago under the control of the Japanese Navy and Air Force. Then it is difficult to do without sputnik communication here.

Thus, the Japanese military circles, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA points out, made the first step towards the use of outer space in militarist purposes. Now they intend, according to the KYODO TSUSHIN news agency, to make the following steps: They intend not only to ensure military communication via sputniks but also to collect reconnaissance information with their help.

Realization of the ambitious plans of the military, writes the newspaper JAPAN TIMES, signifies direct violation of the law on formation in Japan of the national board for exploration of outer space, with the first article of the law stressing the peaceful character of Japan's use of outer space. "Before launching spy satellites", the newspaper writes, those who support the idea, should think of lawfulness of such a step and international consequences it might involve."

"And, really, they should think hard over that", KRASNAYA ZVEZDA stresses.

U.S. SEEKING 'TO BURY' KOREAN SETTLEMENT IDEA

PM231014 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Ganshin "International Commentary": "On Sincerity and Hypocrisy"]

[Text] As already reported, literally a few hours before the advent of the new year the Pentagon declared its intention to hold again the traditional routine military maneuvers code-named "Team Spirit" together with South Korean forces.

This "news" is not news in the strict sense of the word. It was hard to imagine -- considering past years' experience -- that Washington and Seoul this time would abandon the attempt to once more "check the readiness" of personnel and combat equipment and would refrain from a new and extremely dangerous twist in fueling tension on the Korean peninsula. To miss such a chance is not a habit of the U.S. military department and the analogous institution in South Korea which is bound to it hand and foot. The previous "Team Spirit" maneuvers graphically demonstrated that there is no thought at all there of taking the heat out of confrontation on the peninsula.

Despite this, both Seoul and Washington come out from time to time with statements that boil down to the following: Is it not possible to resolve the Korean problem? Naturally, in the interests of the South and its overseas partner. Only on these conditions are Reagan and Chon Tu-hwan ready to talk with the North -- to the accompaniment of tank attacks, flights by ground-attack aircraft, bursts of artillery shells, and the martial cries of troop subunits advancing on a nonexistent enemy. To put it bluntly, not a very suitable backdrop for talks on the peaceful settlement of existing problems. Nonetheless listening to the U.S. and South Korean sides, the impression comes across that in their opinion it is possible to talk to the North only in the smoke of battle and the heat of militarism.

There is no need to mention that such arguments are no more than a screen for further U.S. military penetration in the region and for building up the offensive might of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific. Everthing is clear here. It is no accident that Washington and Seoul are constantly saying "no" to Pyongyang's proposals to hold a dialogue from fundamentally different positions. And there is no lack of peace initiatives on the DPRK's side.

They are well known and are backed up by practical steps aimed at reducing tension on the Korean peninsula. Some of the latest steps in this direction are the proposals advanced at a session of the republic's Central People's Committee and the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

In conditions of worsening tension on the peninsula, for which the United States is primarly responsible, the only way to achieve peace in and the peaceful unification of Korea is constructive dialogue. To develop this, as a KCNA report on the subject stresses, the DPRK proposes holding trilateral talks involving the DPRK, the United States, and South Korea. The talks must focus on the question of replacing the armistice with a peace agreement and the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea.

This, so to speak, is the quintessence of a possible solution to the problem. Seoul, you may be sure, rejected this, with approval from across the ocean, while Washington started to talk about technical details and began to judge and conjecture how many participants are required for a "fuller" and "comprehensive" discussion of the proposed question, and so forth. In a word, Washington is clearly trying to bury the very idea of a peaceful settlement in procedural questions, advancing (it is shameful even to repeat this) "doubts about Pyongyang's sincerity" as a pretext for deferring dialogue.

As soon as it was a question of a moral concept like sincerity, it is obviously superfluous to recall which side lacks enough of this quality to solve the accumulated problems successfully. The United States, which is trying to transform the south of the peninsula into a U.S. military base, deploying nuclear weapons, and that plans to deploy its Pershing and cruise missiles and neutron weapons here, is wholly responsible for the current state of affairs in the region. South Korea itself has been transformed into a militarized police state where any dissent is brutally suppressed.

Those who pursue a policy of military preparations and repression consider themselves "sincere" and doubt the presence of goodwill in others. Well, ultimately each person judges on the basis of his own moral principles. And, as practice shows, Washington's and Seoul's moral concepts are far removed from the standard common to the rest of mankind.

DPRK PAPER URGES 'STEADY PRODUCTION GROWTH'

PM231302 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 84 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Razuvayev dispatch under the general heading "Fraternal Newspapers: Topic of the Day": "Commissioning Reserves"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 19 Jan -- This is the final year of the Second Korean 7-Year Plan. It is necessary, NODONG SINMUN writes editorially, to commission all reserves to ensure steady production growth and a rise in the working people's living standards.

These tasks must be resolved under very complex conditions, when the forces of imperialism and reaction do not cease their anticommunist hysteria and provocative attacks on the DPRK. Therefore, the newspaper points out, all party members and working people must work selflessly and with full exertion of effort, displaying high vigilance. It is necessary to put an end to primitive work methods and resolutely suppress instances of laxity, passiveness, and mismanagement.

GREAT OCTOBER INFLUENCED KOREAN 1 MARCH MOVEMENT

SK221106 Moscow in Korean to Korea 0930 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Talk by station commentator]

[Text] On 21 January 1924, 60 years ago, the heart of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the founder of the Communist Party of our country and of the Soviet state, stopped beating. Lenin completely devoted his brilliant, heroic life to great, noble work -- the struggle to liberate the proletariat and other oppressed people socially and to achieve the happiness of workers.

Lenin launched the practical work of the revolutionary reform of the world, whose necessity had been predicted and proven by the theory of Marxism-Leninism. Directly led by Lenin, the Great October Socialist Revolution was carried out in Russia.

When we recall the course followed by mankind after the Great October Revolution, we can understand how greatly Lenin's idea influenced the development of today's world. Lenin's idea encouraged the people on all continents. Encouraged by this idea, the Korean people, who had groaned under the colonial yoke of Japanese imperialists, rose in struggle. Under the direct influence of the Great October Revolution, a mass uprising broke out in Korea on 1 March 1919 against the Japanese oppressors. The idea of the October Revolution was reflected in the slogans of the 1 March Movement, which demanded not only the liberation of the people but also social reform. Although this uprising was brutally suppressed by Japanese punitive forces, thousands of patriots joined the ranks of fighters to achieve the freedom and liberation of Korea.

The name of Lenin, the creator and leader of the first state of workers and peasants in the world, was widely known in Korea. This was well shown by the fact that a book entitled "The History of the Russian Revolution and Lenin" was published in Korea in 1922. Reflecting the great interest of people from various social circles in Korea in Lenin's idea and personality, even bourgeois media carried materials on Lenin and on Soviet Russia. For example, TONG-A ILBO said in the commentary it carried in the summer of 1920: Scores of millions of people support Lenin and oppressed workers admire him. This proves the greatness of Lenin.

Lenin paid attention to the national liberation struggle of the Korean people with great interest and compassion. He maintained ties with first-stage Korean revolutionaries. Lenin's major books entitled "The State and the Revolution," "What Should We Do?" and "The Impending Task of the Soviet Regime" were translated into Korean and secretly introduced into Korea. The Korean revolutionaries were indoctrinated by these works and brought up ideologically.

Evaluating the role of Lenin's idea in the Korean people's liberation struggle, Comrade Kim Il-song said: The ray of Lenin's idea penetrated the colonial darkness that had covered our country. This ray illuminated the path of our people toward national and social progress. Lenin's theory is our guiding star in building a new society to whose course Vladimir Ilich Lenin completely devoted his brilliant life and immortal wisdom.

The long-cherished desire of the Korean people was fulfilled in August 1945, when the Soviet forces brought freedom to Korea by thoroughly smashing the Kanto army of the Japanese imperialists. As a result, the road toward socialist development opened before the workers of the northern half of Korea.

Lenin's idea on friendship and cooperation among peoples has become the basic principle of relations among socialist countries, including those between the Soviet Union and the DPRK.

These relations are based on Marxism-Leninism, on socialist internationalism, and on the firm and unswerving principle of true equality and mutual respect. This noble, basic principle has further developed after being codified in the agreement for friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Korea and for mutual aid. While reliably serving the work of preserving peace and security in the Far East, this agreement has guaranteed the peaceful and creative labor of the Korean people.

As is clearly shown by past experinece, the friendship and cooperation of the workers of People's Korea with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries were a reliable basis for these workers to overcome in a short time the great difficulties they inherited from the previous colonial period, to rehabilitate the people's economy destroyed in the course of U.S. imperialist aggression from 1950 to 1953 against People's Korea, and to confidently advance along the road toward building a new society.

The Soviet people truly rejoiced over the continuous development and strengthening of the comprehensive cooperation between our two countries and peoples. The mutual exchange of visits among party leaders and state activists has become a good tradition. During these visits, views on the question of building socialism and communism have been exchanged, and pending international questions have been reviewed. Ties between the national assemblymen, social organizations, creative unions, ministries, and bureaus of the Soviet Union and People's Korea have been strengthened and developed. Agreements between the governments for economic cooperation have been successfully implemented.

The Soviet people have always tried to cooperate in various ways for the effort of the workers of People's Korea for socialist construction. For example, over 60 major objects of the people's economy have been rehabilitated or built in People's Korea with the participation of the Soviet Union. These enterprises are now the core of the people's economy of the republic.

Economic cooperation is now developing successfully. Practical life shows that only when we act jointly based on the principle of mutual understanding and aid can we achieve the national goal of each fraternal country and carry out the common international task of the socialist world.

The Soviet Union has consistently supported the just struggle of the Korean people to peacefully and democratically reunify the country and the DPRK's proposal for solving the Korean question. The Soviet people, who are faithful to Lenin's instruction and who have been indoctrinated by a socialist and international spirit, have done the best to strengthen their firm unity with the fraternal Korean people.

U.S.-PAKISTAN MILITARY TIES, ACTIONS CRITICIZED

'Undeclared War' Against DRA

PM231041 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 20 Jan 84 p 3

[Article by Mikhail Kapustin under the rubric "Commentator's Opinion": "Escalation of Interference"]

[Text] Washington and its allies are expanding the dimensions of their undeclared war against the DRA. According to press reports, this year the record sum of $125 million for conducting subversive activity against Afghanistan has been earmarked from the Pentagon budget. Over 60 million pounds sterling have been supplied by Britain for the same purpose, while the FRG has supplied DM60 million. Gangs of mercenaries are receiving the most diverse types of weapons on a wide scale, including guns, missiles, and antiaircraft guns. At subversive anti-Afghan centers created on Pakistani territory and financed by U.S. dollars, bandits take a "scientific course" in killing, plunder, and rape under the guidance of CIA instructors.

At the same time Washington is setting the Pakistani military regime against Afghanistan. According to Indian press reports, special subunits of the Pakistani Armed Forces are already making piratical attacks on the border regions of the DRA and perpetrating acts of subversion and terrorism there. On instructions from Washington, Islamabad has considerably stepped up military preparations on its borders with the DRA in recent months. India's STATESMAN newspaper reports that a large quantity of aircraft and other military equipment obtained from across the ocean has been brought in there. A special Pakistani Air Force Northern Command has even been created to control air operations in the region. Three Pakistani strike divisions have already been deployed against the DRA, and units and subunits stationed in the region are being rapidly rearmed.

Washington's course toward escalating aggressive actions against Afghanistan and expanding interference in that country's internal affairs is the main obstacle in the way of normalizing the situation surrounding the DRA and ensuring peace and stability in the region.

India Questions 'Real Goals'

LD232310 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Observer Vladimir Ivanov commentary]

[Text] The recent Pakistani visit of a member of the United States Congress Foreign Investments Commission, Mr Wilson, has caused interest that is not due to his post but to what he discussed with President Ziaul Haq and Foreign Minister Yaqub Ali Khan. The two sides said they were satisfied with the current implementation of the $3.2 billion comprehensive military and economic deal between them. This assessment sums up Washington's efforts in rearming the Pakistani Armed Forces. Islamabad has received the first F-16 fighter-bombers. Agreements have been signed for shipments of American M-48 tanks, Harpoon sea-based missiles and military electronic equipment to Pakistan. In fact, the Pakistani Air Force, Navy and Army are being re-equipped with the latest offensive weapons. In return, Islamabad has allowed the Pentagon to deploy its bases in Pakistan. The United States Central Command, its headquarters is soon to be deployed in Karachi, is to control the territories of 19 countries, plus Jammu and Kashmir in India. At least one Pakistani division has been formed for joint operations with the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force of the United States.

Indian newspapers have cited these facts as proof that Islamabad has been actively involved in Washington's military preparations in Asia. From all evidence, the strategic agreement between the two countries involves more shipments of American weapons to Pakistan. During Mr Wilson's visit it was announced that in the 1985 fiscal year Washington will grant Islamabad $325 million for munitions purchases and $300 million as economic aid for military preparations. In return for these additional donations Washington demands more concessions from Islamabad. There have been reports about a possible deployment of American medium-range missiles in Pakistan. Islamabad is receiving more offensive weapons than it needs for its own protection. The F-16 fighter-bombers, replacing the old F-86 fighters, will greatly enhance the offensive aircraft. They can deliver both conventional and nuclear charges on targets deep within neighboring states.

The news agency PAKISTAN PRESS INTERNATIONAL has tried to justify the deployment of the latest aircraft at the Air Force base in Sarghoda by mentioning the situation on the country's western border. This claim is not a new one. It is well-known in India, and that country has commented on it. Some time ago the newspaper NATIONAL HERALD wrote that Washington's haste in sending F-16's and other deadly weapons to Pakistan makes one wonder about the real goals of the United States in the region. The United States wants to turn Pakistan into a frontline state. Obviously Pakistan can use the F-16's only against Inida. India believes the growing Pakistani-American military cooperation is connected directly with Islamabad's pledge to keep intact its foreign policy orientation.

According to the HINDUSTAN TIMES, Pakistan is to keep up its hositility to India in exchange for financial and military aid from the United States. Most of the Pakistani Armed Forces are on the Indian border and Islamabad doesn't conceal the fact that the latest American weapons are sent to those regions, too. The military build-up is especially intensive there. There have been many military maneuvers in the frontier areas, specifically in the Pakistani occupied part of the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir. This demonstration of armed force gives rise to tensions between the two neighboring countries. Recent reports from Islamabad say that since the start of this year Pakistani troops have fired 11 times at the Indian position along the line dividing the Pakistani occupied part of Jammu and Kashmir from the rest of India.

The orientation of the Pakistani-American military cooperation is due to Washington's negative attitude toward the Nonaligned Movement and especially to India, which heads that movement. With Pakistan's hands the United States creates problems for India, adding to the negative effect of its own military presence in the Indian Ocean. And the Pakistani generals have traded goodneighborly relations with India for the dubious goal of protecting Washington's so-called vital interests.

U.S. PLANNING 'TO EXPAND' S. ASIA MILITARY TIES

LD201652 Moscow TASS in English 1443 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Chekhonin writes:

According to press reports, the Government of India and a number of other Asian countries are following with worry Washington's attempts to expand the network of its military bases in South Asia. It has become known that Washington is openly claiming the right to establish naval and air force facilities in Chittagong and in the Lanka Trenkomali port.

This worry is quite understandable. It is prompted not only by the fact that Washington intends to close its encirclement of India, a recognized leader of the Non-aligned Movement whose independent policy of peace is a thorn in the flesh of the Pentagon strategists. The establishment of such military facilities by the United States in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka would further aggravate the situation in the region, tense as it is.

It is common knowledge that the U.S. system of military bases, which already numbers 1,500 facilities in 32 countries, is a major component of the expansionistic foreign policy course of the USA, whose aim is to achieve world dominance. It is also known that those bases and facilities are the constantly smoldering seats of aggression, conflicts and local wars. Since the Second World War the United States has interfered directly or indirectly on hundreds of occasions in the affairs of other countries, using virtually on every occasion its military bases in foreign territories as staging areas. In this way the granting of facilities to the Pentagon is fraught with the danger of one country or another becoming involved against the will of its government in military adventures of the U.S. strategists and hence threatens that country with the risk of retaliation.

Obviously, if U.S. political pressure on and blackmail against Bangladesh and Sri Lanka bring results, both countries will face another risk, the risk of economic catastrophes.

U.S. military presence is bound to lead to the militarisation of the economy, the growth of military spending and foreign indebtedness to the West. This fact is exemplified by the Pakistani economy. The U.S. "economic aid" has failed to save that country from galloping inflation, the dramatic decline of the living standards and the suppression of democratic freedoms. Moreover, Pakistan is facing an even graver threat. The U.S. military are hatching plans for the direct involvement of Islamabad in open armed intervention in neighbouring countries. Washington is going to use cat's paws. It wants Pakistan to pay for such ventures.

Who can guarantee that this lot is not in store for other countries whose governments are being courted by Washington today in its bid to get military bases?

BRIEFS

DRA TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS -- Vehicle transportation is of great economic importance for the rapidly developing economic life of Afghanistan. Currently, five transportation networks are being set up in that country with Soviet help. The Soviet Union is making trucks available to these networks which are capable of carrying over 1,500 tons of load. Uzbekistan is making a significant contribution toward setting up and equipping new vehicle establishments, building work centers for servicing vehicles, and training experts in the field. [Text] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 15 Jan 84 GF]

LAO PEOPLE'S ARMY 35TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

Ustinov Greets Lao Minister

PM231032 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jan 84 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To Army General Comrade Khamtai Siphandon, minister of national defense of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]

Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and myself I cordially congratulate you and all Laotian soldiers on the 35th anniversary of the Lao People's Army.

Under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and with the support of the fraternal socialist countries, the Lao People's Army defended its motherland's freedom and independence in the course of a prolonged struggle. The Lao People's Army soldiers, together with the Laotian working people, are persistently striving to implement the 3d LPRP Congress decisions for laying the foundations of socialism in the country and are vigilantly guarding peace and socialism under the conditions of exacerbated international situation.

I wish the personnel of the Armed Forces further success in consolidating the LPDR's defense capability.

May the friendship and combat solidarity between our countries' peoples and armies strengthen!

With communist greetings,

Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR defense minister

Shestopalov Attends Reception

PM231928 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jan 84 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "On the Anniversary"]

[Text] Colonel (B. Senchongkhak), military, naval, and air attache at the Lao Embassy in the USSR, held a reception 20 January on the 35th anniversary of the Lao People's Army.

The reception was attended by Marshal of Engineering Troops N.F. Shestopalov, USSR deputy defense minister; Lieutenant General B.P. Utkin, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces.

The guests included the military, naval, and air attaches of other countries' embassies in Moscow.

SRV, PRK WELCOME VISITING BULGARIAN CP OFFICIAL

SRV-Bulgarian Communique Issued

LD210648 Moscow TASS in English 1523 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Hanoi January 20 TASS -- The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Bulgaria condemn the hostile policy of the forces of imperialism and hegemonism, their encroachment on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, says a joint communique released here upon the completion of the official friendly visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam by the Bulgarian Government delegation headed by Grisha Filipov, member of the Political Bureau of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria. To stabilize the situation in Southeast Asia, the communique points out, it is imperative to stop outside interference. The region's problems must be resolved by peaceful means, through dialogue between the countries in Indo-China and ASEAN. The unity, cohesion, and lasting alliance between Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea, whose people's sole legitimate representative is the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, are a major factor of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

Vietnam and Bulgaria expressed full support for the initiative to turn Asia into a continent of peace, security and goodneighbourly relations and readiness to conclude the corresponding conventions. They backed the idea to turn the Indian Ocean into a peace zone and stressed it was essential to adopt urgent measures in this direction.

Heng Samrin Meets Filipov

LD210726 Moscow TASS in English 1739 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Phnom Penh January 20 TASS -- The subversive activities of the forces of imperialism, hegemonism and reaction against the Kampuchean revolution are the prime cause of tension in Southeast Asia. This was noted by the general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea Heng Samrin during his meeting here with member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Grisha Filipov, who is heading a Bulgarian Government delegation.

Grisha Filipov confirmed that Bulgaria will further side with the Kampuchean people, the peoples of Vietnam and Laos in their struggle to strengthen national sovereignty and independence, to establish an atmosphere of goodneighbourhood in Southeast Asia. He noted the pressing need of the full international recognition of the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea as the sole lawful representative of the Kampuchean people. The important role of the cohesion and firm alliance of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, of the further development of Kampuchea's all-round cooperation with socialist countries was stressed at the meeting.

PRK-Bulgaria Communique Issued

LD210938 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Phnom Penh, January 20 TASS -- The policy of imperialism and forces of international and regional reaction is the main source of tension in Southeast Asia, it is said in a joint communique on the results of the official friendly visit to the People's Republic of Kampuchea by a Bulgarian Government delegation headed by the chairman of Bulgaria's Council of Ministers Grisha Filipov.

The document expresses conviction that outstanding issues in this region can be solved by way of a dialogue between Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, on the one side, and the ASEAN states, on the other side. Bulgaria supports the proposals set forth by Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos and directed at normalising the situation in this area of the world.

The sides declared in support of the just struggle of the Afghan people in defence of the gains of the April Revolution, for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and all Arab territories, for granting to the Palestinian people the right to self-determination, including the right to form its own independent state. The sides condemned the military aggression by the United States against Grenada and also American imperialism's hostile actions against Cuba and Nicaragua.

U.S. POLICIES, ACTIONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA KNOCKED

'Arms Race' in Thailand

PM231441 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[B. Vinogradov commentary: "Thailand-United States: On Land and at Sea...."]

[Text] The following two events coincided: the conclusion of maneuvers by the U.S. and Thai navies in the Gulf of Siam and the departure from Bangkok for home of General Jerome O'Malley, commander of the U.S. Pacific Air Forces.

The maneuvers, which lasted 2 weeks, concentrated on operations involving "joint combat actions" at sea by the two countries' armed forces with the participation of aircraft from the U.S. 7th Fleet. On land, meanwhile, Gen O'Malley held talks with representatives of the Thai Army High Command on the forthcoming U.S. deliveries to Thailand of F-16 fighter-bombers capable of delivering nuclear weapons. Both events are seen by the public in Southeast Asian countries as part of Washington's persistent striving to involve Thailand even more strongly in the orbit of its aggressive policy.

It must be said that the question of the sale of modern combat aircraft to Thailand is far from new. For several months now diplomats from the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok and special envoys from the Pentagon have spared no effort to spread the arms race to the ASEAN member countries. In pursuit of this goal, Washington has been stepping up tension by all means, threatening the public with the "growing communist threat." Meanwhile, to the accompaniment of its incessant campaign, it is quietly stepping up its own military presence in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. According to the BANGKOK POST, the Pentagon already has 785 combat aircraft, including naval aviation and B-52 strategic bombers, permanently ready for action in the Pacific basin. The number of U.S. naval ships and submarines cruising by day and night off the coast of Asian states is continuing to increase further.

Thailand's participation in the arms race which is being imposed on it will cost its population dearly. The forthcoming deal on F-16 deliveries could raise its foreign debt to $13 billion and exacerbate the economic difficulties even further.

Although Gen O'Malley hinted that the Pentagon is prepared to subsidize the deliveries, this has not diminished the Thai public's alarm. You see, the size of U.S. military aid to Thailand is determined by the inevitable growth of its military budget, which this year will in any case exceed the record sum of $1.7 billion.

The Pentagon's course aimed at stepping up the military danger in Southeast Asia complicates the solution of problems concerning the transformation of the region into a zone of peace and stability.

'Covert Warfare' in Indochina

LD241156 Moscow TASS in English 0915 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 24 TASS -- "Faced with the grave threat posed by the U.S. aggressive forces, the Indochinese countries' jointly with their friends and allies are building up their defences and enhancing their vigilance to protect their revolutionary achievements and to uphold freedom and independence," KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says.

Eight years have passed since the inglorious demise of the U.S. venture in Indochina, the newspaper continues, but Vietnam remains in the CIA's "black list" and ever new plans are being hatched in the CIA headquarters to avenge the defeat in Indochina.

An operational base of a "special team for Kampuchean affairs" reporting directly to the CIA has been established in the Aranyaprathet locality on the Thai-Lao border. It is that base that orchestrates an undeclared war against the Kampuchean people.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic remains in the sights of the U.S. secret services as well, the newspaper says. Subversive teams of right-wing Lao reactionaries recruited by the CIA have been infiltrated into Laos on more than one occasion from the secret base on the Thai-Lao border. In November 1982 CIA mercenaries commanded by J. Gritz, a retired "Green Berets" colonel, commited an outrageous intrusion into Laos.

Developing the forms and methods of their intelligence-gathering and subversive operations, the article goes on, the U.S. secret services are at the same time taking care to put to use the "experience" gained by them during their war of aggression in Indochina. Officers of U.S. special units, "Vietnam Veterans", are training the cutthroats of the Salvadoran junta in the most "efficient methods" of extermination, killing and torture. The "agrarian reform", carried out by CIA agents in El Salvador, just as the "Phoenix" programme, consists in the establishment of "strategic villages", which actually are concentration camps. Kampuchea was once bombed under the pretext of protecting U.S. troops, while more recently Grenada was invaded under the pretext of "saving" the lives of U.S. citizens.

ASEAN 'Military Bloc' Conversion

LD222328 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 22 Jan 84

[Text] The United States Administration is planning to turn the Association of Southeast Asian Nations into a military bloc acting under its auspices. For this purpose Washington is using the tactics of small steps in order to involve the ASEAN countries in its militaristic preparations ever deeper. More about this from Petr Alyoshin, and this is what he writes:

In the pursuit of these goals the United States leans primarily on its so-called defense agreements signed with some of the ASEAN members. Basing on these agreements it is seeking to expand the network of its military facilities and bases in Southeast Asia. In Thailand, for instance, apart from the bases it built earlier, the Pentagon is creating a new one in Pattaya. This base will serve as an additional transit facility for rushing United States troops from the Philippines to Diego Garcia in the heart of the Indian Ocean and further to the Middle East and the Persian Gulf area. In order to tie the ASEAN countries to its military policy ever faster the United States actively involves them in joint military exercises and war games. Last year, the United States held more than 10 joint military maneuvers with Thailand alone. On the pretext of heightening ASEAN's combat readiness Washington actually makes them accustomed to act under American military command and to coordinate their plans with the Pentagon.

The program for modernizing America's and ASEAN's armed forces is also aimed at promoting Washington's militaristic plans in Southeast Asia. Admiral Crowe, United States commander in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, believes that the program must be implemented as soon as possible. The updating of American Armed Forces stationed in Southeast Asia is to result in equipping America's naval and air force units with nuclear cruise missiles by the middle of the year. As for the ASEAN's armies, Washington is pressing on them the advanced types of offensive weaponry. It has already announced it decision to supply Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines with $2 billion worth of F-16 fighter bombers. The so-called program for standardizing the armaments of the United States and ASEAN armies serves as a pretext for all this.

What will Washington's small steps tactics towards the ASEAN countries lead to? First of all, to an escalated arms build-up in Southeast Asia and this will entail more mistrust between ASEAN and the Indochina countries and a further aggravation of tensions in the region. But this is precisely what the Reagan administration is seeking. By resorting to a system of various military measures it wants to create preconditions for knocking together another military bloc under its own control locally. In short, the Reagan administration is planning to force the ASEAN to fight against Asians, as it did more than once in the past. But who must the ASEAN members fight against? They have been assigned the role of executors in America's policy towards the Indochina nations which Washington views as an obstacle in imposing its dominance over Southeast Asia. The United States Administration is willing to devastate the ASEAN countries to gain this goal. President Reagan has said that a nuclear war in Asia won't result in a universal catastrophe. This shows that the views the ASEAN members as nuclear pawns, which he thinks can be sacrificed for the sake of promoting America's hegemonistic ambitions in that part of the world and elsewhere. These dangerous plans nurtured by the United States run counter to the vital interests of the ASEAN countries which want to ensure reliable security and to develop mutually beneficial cooperation.

'Opposed to' Developing States

LD210340 Moscow TASS in English 2037 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Washington January 20 TASS -- In a speech here the Prime Minister of Malaysia Mahathir bin Mohamed sharply criticized the foreign policy of the United States. The Malaysian leader, who is in Washington on an official visit, noted the polarity of interests of the United States and the developing countries. Mahathir bin Mohamed said that it was all too often that the United States appeared on the side opposed to developing countries.

Using as a concrete example the stand taken by Washington in questions of establishing the new international economic order, the treaty on the law of the sea and in respect of UNESCO the prime minister of Malaysia expressed serious concern that the United States resists international reforms that are so needed to improve the lot of many developing countries and ignores the legitimate interests and aspirations of their peoples.

The Malaysia leader is especially alarmed by the fact that under the pretext of ensuring national security the Washington administration is making the emphasis on military force in its policy in respect of major regions of the world.

Mahathir bin Mohamed resolutely condemned the refusal of the American Administration to recognise the basic rights of the Palestinian people and clearly intimated that he regards the United States a direct accomplice of the heinous crimes perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinians.

USSR-FRENCH DISARMAMENT MEETING OPENS IN MOSCOW

LD241051 Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 24 TASS -- A Soviet-French colloquium on questions of disarmament and strengthening peace opened in the friendship house here today.

It is attended by over a hundred prominent Soviet and French personalities -- deputies of parliaments, political and trade union leaders, servicemen, scientists, writers and representatives of the clergy.

The meeting is being held at the initiative of the USSR-France and the France-USSR societies.

CONTRASTS IN FRENCH FOREIGN POLICY NOTED

PM231619 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 84 Edition p 4

[Own correspondent I. Shchedrov dispatch under the rubric "France at the Beginning of the Year": "Mists Over Paris"]

[Excerpt] Paris, January -- In Williamsburg last spring France agreed to a document which proclaimed the defense of the West's "global interests" together with the United States and the other countries of the "big seven." That was followed by the urgent knocking together of a special corps after the model and pattern of the U.S. "Rapid Deployment Force." So far one-third of these strike subunits of the French Army have found themselves in various "hot spots" of the planet. French soldiers are now in Chad and also with the U.S. Marines in Lebanon. It cost the French taxpayer Frl.5 billion to pay just last year's bills for these "expeditions," not to mention the human casualties.

The support of official Paris for the deployment of new U.S. first-strike nuclear missile weapons in West Europe is well known. Communists, the major trade union centers, and dozens of mass public organizations have taken an active part in the antiwar, antimissile movement. Millions of ordinary people see the dangerous consequences of the present U.S. Administration's policy. The majority of French people, like the inhabitants of other Western countries -- the Paris-published U.S. newspaper THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE was forced to admit -- advocate dialogue with the Soviet Union, the further implementation of the policy of detente, and the development and setting up of mutually advantageous relations.

This is also mentioned in the message from the French "Appeal of 100" antiwar movement. The reply by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to it reads: "We fully comprehend the French people's increased alarm voiced in your appeal at the future of our continent. It will not hide the fact that the chief concern of Soviet people today, too, is to remove the threat of nuclear war. But we believe that the situation that has been created is not irreversible. The Soviet leadership has already declared very clearly that if the NATO countries display readiness to return to the situation which existed before the U.S. medium-range missiles started to be deployed in Europe, the USSR will also be prepared to do so."

At the same time, as local commentators point out, no major initiatives aimed at preserving the political climate of detente and easing tension are yet to be seen on the part of Paris. In connection with the French president's routine U.S. visit in the near future, just announced, Paris newspapers recall that this will be F. Mitterrand's seventh meeting with R. Reagan since being elected head of state.

At the same time local observers point out that Paris has repeatedly and openly opposed Washington in its attempts to dictate to France how and with whom it is to trade and maintain cultural and other ties. Paris condemned the U.S. armed attack on Grenada. France expressed regret at the U.S. decision to quit UNESCO. The French Government not only condemned the embargo announced by the U.S. Administration on deliveries of equipment for the Soviet gas pipeline but also instructed the enterprises operating on the country's territory to disregard Washington's instruction. In the end the United States had to rescind that decision. Nor did France support the Reagan administration's attempts to involve it in the boycott of Soviet airlines.

With the support of other West European countries Paris has repeatedly come out consistently against Washington's attempts to create a semblance of an "economic NATO" against the USSR and the other socialist community countries. This policy, as public opinion polls have shown, is supported by various sections of the population. Paris newspapers point out that more than 100,000 French people are currently fulfilling Soviet orders in the country's enterprises. Business circles are also displaying ever greater interest in the development of economic cooperation, as evidenced by the visit to Moscow of a large group of French businessmen headed by Y. Gattaz, president of the National Council of French Employers, and the business visits of Foreign Trade Minister E. Cresson and Transportation Minister C. Fiterman. All the mass media name the start of Soviet gas deliveries along the "Siberia-West Europe" gas pipeline, which will already reach 1 billion cubic meters this year, as the major event of the beginning of the year.

TWO SOVIETS SEEK ASYLUM AT U.S. EMBASSY IN PARIS

NC231251 Paris AFP in English 1235 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Paris, Jan 23 (AFP) -- Two Soviet nationals -- a diplomat and a merchant navy officer -- arrived separately at the United States Embassy here last week and requested political asylum, reliable sources reported today.

They were both flown to Munich for debriefing sessions with U.S. intelligence, the sources added. Both acted without the other's knowledge.

They were named as Yuriy Chankin, 32, a member of the big Soviet Trade Mission here and Igor Yigerov, 26, third officer on the Soviet freighter "Kapitan Panfilov."

Mr Chankin left his office last Wednesday and went to the U.S. Embassy in central Paris. The Soviet consulate-general later reported him to the French authorities as missing.

Last Thursday Mr Yigerov quit his ship, loading cereals at Rouen, northern France, and travelled to Paris to request asylum at the U.S. Embassy.

The "Kapitan Panfilov" is on the regular Rostock-Rouen route.

It is usual for all refugees from the Soviet bloc who seek asylum in the United States to be sent to Munich for debriefing.

USSR EMBASSY IN OSLO HITS 'TREHOLT AFFAIR'

LD231920 Stockholm International Service in Swedish 1900 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The Soviet Embassy in Oslo issued a press statement this evening describing the case of the spy, Arne Treholt, as a provocation intended to discredit Soviet foreign policy and diplomacy. It is no coincidence that the Norwegian security service arranged the Treholt affair at the same time as the start of the Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures, it is stated in the statement issued by the Soviet Embassy.

SPANISH MINISTER MOSCOSO VISITS LENINGRAD

LD210028 Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Leningrad January 20 TASS -- We want to know your country better. Interest in the Soviet Union's history and culture is a typical feature of present-day Spain, it was stated by the Minister of Public Administration of Spain[title as received] Javier Moscoso, who has arrived here from Moscow. The minister is staying in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, the biggest constituent republic of the USSR.

At the meeting with teachers of Leningrad University the minister was told about the extensive international ties of this establishment of higher education which is attended not only by Soviet students but also by young people from 70 countries of the world.

Javier Moscoso visited the chief public health administration of Leningrad. He was acquainted with the organisation of free medical services to the population. Almost a quarter of the city budget is annually allocated for these purposes, the guest was told.

At the Leningrad City Soviet its chairman Vladimir Khodyrev told the Spanish Minister about the economic and social development of the USSR's second-biggest city, about the work done by people's deputies.

The guest visited the Piskarevskoye Memorial Cemetery where more than half a million civilians and soldiers who died during the Second World War are interred. Javier Moscoso paid tribute to the memory of the victims of Hitler's fascism and laid a wreath to the motherland monument.

The Spanish minister visited the Hermitage Museum, one of the biggest museums in the world. Its collection consists of about three million works of art, sculpture and applied art, including canvases by El Greco, Velazquez, Goya and other Spanish masters.

Leaves USSR 21 Jan

LD211755 Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Text] Leningrad January 21 TASS -- Javier Moscoso, minister of the state administration of Spain, today saw a monument to the defenders of Leningrad in Victory Square and admired the unparalleled courage of the Leningraders, who had defended their city from the Nazi invaders during the Second World War. "The people who lived through grim trials cannot wish another war. Here, in Leningrad, I got convinced afresh of the sincere desire of the Soviet people for peace," he said.

The magnificent monument was built with the funds raised by the people. The bronze and granite sculptural compositions imortalised the feat of the citizens and armymen during the 900-day siege of the city by the Nazi troops.

The minister has completed his visit and left the Soviet Union today. At Pulkovo Airport he was seen off by Boris Taukin, deputy chairman of the Executive Committee of the Leningrad Soviet of People's Deputies, Boris Kolokolov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Russian Federation, and other officials. The minister expressed his satisfaction with the visit and stressed that it would contribute to the further promotion of friendship and cooperation between Spain and the Soviet Union in the interests of peace and security in Europe.

COMPARISON OF VOROTNIKOV-MOSCOSO TALKS

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 21 January in its First Edition carries on page four a TASS report on the talks between Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Minister, and Javier Moscoso, minister of the prime minister's office, entitled "Minister's Visit". The PRAVDA report has been compared to the TASS English report published on page G1 of the 20 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, revealing the following variations:

First paragraph, line six in PRAVDA reads...the principles of Soviet State Administration and the Tasks...(rewording)

Second paragraph, last line in PRAVDA reads...security in Europe.

Participating in the conversation were L.P. Lykova, Deputy Chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, other officials and also (Kh.) M. Campoamor, the Spanish charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR.

The Spanish Minister...(picking up third paragraph)

BRIEFS

AWARD TO NORWEGIAN FIGURE -- In the USSR Embassy in Norway a ceremony has taken place at which the order of the Friendship of Peoples was awarded to the Norwegian public figure Jon Nilsen by a decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. He has been decorated for energetic activity in the strengthening of good neighborly, friendly ties between the peoples of Norway and the Soviet Union, and in connection with his 70th birthday.

Nilsen is a veteran and active participant in the Norway-Soviet Union Society. He has been a part of its leadership for many years. For 34 years he has been the chief editor of the paper SOVIET-NYT. [Excerpts] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 21 Jan 84 LD]

GREEK DELEGATION IN UZBEKISTAN -- A delegation composed of a number of members of the Greek-Soviet Society has arrived in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan. The delegation is headed by (Akritas Silva), chiarman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Greek Parliament, secretary of the Greek-Soviet, and member of the party Central Committee. On 22 January, the visiting delegation acquainted itself with the exhibition of Uzbek national products and stations of the Tashkent subway. The Greek guests highly appraised the horizons achieved in Uzbekistan under Soviet sovereignty. They will hold talks on the organization of Soviet Days in Greece by Uzbekistan during the current year. [Text] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbex 1700 GMT 22 Jan 84 GF]

U.S. 'PREEMPTIVE' STRIKES IN LEBANON CONDEMNED

LD231532 Moscow TASS in English 1523 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 23 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The U.S. intention to deal so-called "pre-emptive strikes" to some areas in Lebanon, stated on an A.B.C. television program on Sunday by the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, is fresh evidence of a further escalation of the U.S. intervention in that country. The pretext chosen this time by Washington to commit new acts of brigandage is clearly spurious. The fact is that it is simply absurd to assert that the U.S. troops thus hope to pre-empt action by some mythical "suicidal kamikazes" allegedly threatening the U.S. naval armada off the Lebanese coast.

The U.S. military command has reportedly ordered all "suspicious" aircraft destroyed, including civil aircraft, should they appear near the U.S. naval vessels which have been placed on full alert not only off the shores of Lebanon but also in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.

Just recall what a loud and provocative campaign was raised by Washington in connection with the downing of the South Korean airliner which, on a spy mission for the CIA, had invaded deep into Soviet territory and flew over it for two odd hours. And now there is the U.S. command ready to destroy civil aircraft not over U.S. territory but many thousand miles from the U.S. coast. If this is not international terrorism pure and simple, then what is it?

The U.S. intention to resort to "pre-emptive strikes" essentially amounts to giving the interventionists a blank cheque for new aggressive actions, which can only further aggravate the situation in the region.

This is not the first time that the Pentagon resorts to such invented pretexts in a bid to justify U.S. troops' self-imposed policemanship and occupation of others' lands. This was, back in the past, the case in Vietnam, and quite recently -- in Grenada. Now it looks as if a similar shameful scenario is to be re-played in Lebanon.

The "pre-emptive strikes" threats emanate from Washington at a time when in the U.S. itself, and more so in other countries, there is mounting concern and indignation over the White House's interventionist policy in the Middle East. The latest visit of the Washington emissary Rumsfeld to the region ended in a debacle. Any hopes that might have been nurtured by some segments of the U.S. public for a possible withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon have proved to be futile. In the message he just sent to members of the House of Representatives, President Reagan reiterated that there can be no question of any U.S. troop withdrawal.

The invaders -- and Washington should have learnt the lesson long ago -- cannot but meet with resistance from the patriotic forces. And placing the stakes on blackmail, threats and armed force will draw the United States still deeper into the quagmire of intervention in the Middle East.

U.S. MEASURES INCREASE 'MILITARIST BLACKMAIL'

PM231934 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jan 84 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent R. Moseyev dispatch: "Military Blackmail Continues; U.S. Military's Actions in Lebanon"]

[Text] Beirut, 22 Jan -- Following a relative calm, the situation in Beirut and its environs has once again deteriorated.

In the last 2 days shells and mines have exploded and artillery cannonades have resounded in the southern and eastern districts of the Lebanese capital. Skirmishes involving heavy weapons continue in the Lebanese mountains, where Bhamdun, al-Mukhtarah, 'Alayh, and other Druze population centers have been under intensive fire from the Lebanese Army and right-wing parties' military formations. In the past few days around 20 Lebanese have died and more than 50 people have been wounded as a result of the armed clashes, which, as in the past, the local press notes were provoked by the U.S. military.

Deliberately fueling tension and trying, come what may, to thwart the measures being taken by the Lebanese to stabilize the situation, the U.S. military, which has entrenched itself here under the screen of the "multinational forces," is stepping up the militarist blackmail of the Lebanese people with every passing day. In recent days the sky above Beirut and the Lebanese mountains has been patrolled by U.S. fighter-bombers on reconnaissance flights. It is reported that in the region of the international airport, where the U.S. Marines are stationed, special fortifications have been created for personnel and combat equipment. They are connected via underground passages to the coast, off of which the U.S. 6th Fleet is permanently anchored.

The personnel of the ships and the aircraft based on them have been put on full combat alert. As has been made known, the U.S. command has ordered the destruction of all "suspicious" aircraft, including civilian planes, regardless of their markings.

Under the influence of militarist intoxication, threatening statements by high-ranking Pentagon officials to the Lebanese and the Syrians have recently become more frequent. With increasing frequency, people in Washington can be heard talking of the possibility of a "preventive strike" by the Americans against territory controlled by the inter-Arab peacekeeping forces in Lebanon. Local newspapers note that it is a question of preparing for barbarous new bombings and shellings of peaceful Lebanese cities and villages with large-caliber weapons.

G. Hawi, general secretary of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee, called for the cohesion and unity of all Lebanese democratic forces for the struggle against the Israeli occupiers and the U.S. military presence in Lebanon. In an interview with the newspaper AN NIDA' he stressed that the patriots' main task at the present stage is to drive the Israeli aggressors from the country and revoke the crushing agreement with Israel foisted on Lebanon by the United States.

LIBYAN SUB STORY PRETEXT FOR 'PROVOCATION'

PM231022 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 19 Jan 84 p 3

[Yu. Zhuravlev article under the rubric "At the Point of the Pen": "How Possible Is It To Lie?"]

[Text] This time the scenario of a new forgery was prepared with unprecedented care by military department professionals expert at such a difficult matter. Finding themselves under the hypnotic influence of Washington's militant appeals, they too decided to make the biggest contribution they could to fanning the campaign of chauvinist sentiments in the country. To this end they aired a newly-baked fairytale on the television channels: In the waters of the east Mediterranean, a terrible new threat had supposedly arisen against the U.S. naval forces off the Lebanese coast. It was clothed in the concrete flesh of an elusive Libyan "terrorist" submarine.

With mysterious references to informed persons and experts in the intelligence sphere, a television company correspondent accredited to the Pentagon informed unsophisticated viewers in a whisper that this submarine, according to certain data, was hiding somewhere in the region just north of Cyprus. It intended to send to the bottom all American aircraft carriers, missile cruisers, and other warships flying the American flag.

The far-fetched nature of this disinformation was so obvious that even the bourgeois press, which used to readily participate in the anti-Libyan chorus, refrained from commenting on this topic.

This is not the first time that the U.S. Administration has used all sorts of fabrications about Libyan "terrorism" to divert Americans' attention away from unseemly deeds both inside the country and in the international areana. How can one fail to recall here the events of the recent past? Then the entire American press, the police, and espionage services were madly yelling that a vast number of Tripoli agents had landed on American soil with the intention of physically liquidating the top U.S. leaders at any price. They scared ordinary people by saying that the "killers" had come with an entire arsenal of modern weapons, even including portable rockets which could be used to try to shoot down the President's aircraft or helicopter. The ruling circles needed to inflate the nonexistent threat at that time in order to push through a draft law on extending the CIA's powers inside and outside the country. However, the fairytale put out this time also had its definite purpose. On the President's direct orders, the State Department has already introduced new measures to restrict American exports to Libya. However, experienced political commentators are asking themselves the question: Will the sanctions against Libya's progressive, anti-imperialist government be limited just to the economic sphere, and does the White House not intend after this to carry out an armed provocation against another sovereign Arab country? Thus Washington uses self-fabricated forgeries against inimical governments.

LEBANON 'ARCHILLES HEEL' OF REAGAN ADMINISTRATION

LD232212 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Jan 84

[From the Vremya newscast; presentation by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] Hello, comrades! The U.S. armed interference in Lebanon, under the flag of peacemaking, has become the Achilles heel of Reaganite diplomacy from a position of strength. Demands are growing in the United States for the withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon. The administration's policy on this issue is being sharply criticized not just by Democrats, but also by Republicans. Many U.S. observers believe continued U.S. military presence in Lebanon may have a negative effect on Reagan's election campaign.

The U.S. military machine is sowing death and destruction on tormented Lebanese territory. The majority of Lebanese people are showing growing hostility toward to U.S. troops, and are demanding their immediate withdrawal from the country. However, the White House has chosen to escalate its armed interference in Lebanon. This adventurist course has been particularly sharply manifest in recent days.

In a note to a number of members of the House of Representatives, Reagan stated that unilateral withdrawal of U.S. troops from Lebanon was somehow impossible. Moreover, plans have been worked out in Washington for an expansion of U.S.-Israeli aggression in that country. Secretary of State Shultz has just reaffirmed this.

Appearing on an ABC television program, he spoke of the readiness of the U.S. military armada, which has blockaded the Lebanese coast, to inflict warning strikes on individual regions of that country. Now, White House directives are being implemented on site in the Pentagon's operational-tactical plans.

It is being reported that U.S. naval forces in the eastern Mediterranean, and also in the Persian Gulf region, are being placed on enhanced combat readiness. U.S. troops have been given an order to destroy any ship or civil aircraft in the zone where ships of the Sixth Fleet are stationed, regardless of its markings.

The Pentagon's generals are deliberately exacerbating a situation of military psychosis, claiming that some suicide pilots are preparing to strike at U.S. war ships. In actual fact, it is a case of the United Stated intending to turn vast areas of the Mediterranean, where civil air and sea routes run, into a zone of combat operations.

A contingent of the U.S. infantry is conducting active military preparations inside Lebanon itself. In the last few days, U.S. and Israeli reconnaisance planes have been constantly flying over Beirut and the mountain regions of Lebanon. They are looking for targets for bombing raids not only where national-patriotic forces are operating, but also where Syrian units are located.

The situation in the Al-Biqa' Valley, on the line of contact between the Syrian and Israeli troops, has become acutely worse. Observers in the Arab world consider that the United States and Israel are preparing to explode the situation in Lebanon. The Pentagon intends to carry out a wide-scale operation in that country. This adventurist stake by Washington on the use of force will not rescue from deadlock its Middle East policy, but will only help to further exacerbate the explosive situation in the Middle East.

U.S. CONCERN OVER 'SUICIDE PILOTS' DECRIED

LD232252 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 23 Jan 84

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Boris Andrianov]

[Text] As REUTER reports from Washington, U.S Secretary of State Shultz has spoken on ABC television. In particular, he stated that the U.S. military squadron off the coast of Lebanon is ready to carry out preemptive strikes on various regions of this country. By this very fact, the head of the U.S. diplomatic department joined the noisy campaign unleashed over the last few days by U.S. generals. Exacerbating the atmosphere of military psychosis, they are alleging that some kind of suicide pilots intend to carry out a strike on the ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet. No proof is being put forward on the matter. After all, where would Washington get proof, considering it has invented this pretext merely to justify new acts of brigandage by the U.S. brass hats in Lebanon.

It is not by chance that U.S. and Israeli planes have recently stepped up their provocative raids over Lebanese airspace. Washington is apparently preparing new bandit raids on the peaceful settlements and positions of the Lebanese national patriotic forces. The U.S. -Israeli air force is behaving with defiant impudence in the sky over Lebanon.

Meanwhile, the command of the U.S. squadron off the Lebanese coast has given an order to destroy all planes, including civilian aircraft, if they are sighted up in the deployment zone of the U.S. warships.

Have they really forgotten in Washington what a provocative song and dance they made last September, when the South Korean plane, which intruded into the Soviet Union's airspace with CIA espionage tasks, was downed? They have not forgotten. It was simply that at that time the Reagan administration was engaged in blatant lying and cynical hypocrisy.

As graphic testimony to this, we could take the readiness of the Pentagonists to destroy any civilian plane -- by no means over the territory of the United States but thousands of kilometers from the U.S. shores -- near the maritime frontier of Lebanon.

Thus, on an invented pretext of protection from terrorists, Washington is restoring to open international terrorism, reckoning to leave itself free for new aggressive actions in the Middle East, from where, as President Reagan declared, the United States does not intend to withdraw its armed forces. This was stated in a message from the master of the White House to two members of the House of Representatives, who are demanding the immediate withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon.

This question, by the way, is presently on the agenda of the U.S. Congress, where feelings against U.S. military interference in Lebanon are growing. All indications are that in the White House, they are afraid that during the course of discussions on this problem opinions favoring withdrawal of the U.S. Marines might prevail. The far-reaching provocative fiction concerning suicide pilots supposedly threatening the warships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet off the Lebanese shores is intended for this contingency.

U.S. CANNOT CONCEAL MIDEAST 'AGGRESSION' POLICY

LD232008 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Vladimir Nileskiy "talk": "The American Way, What Does Stability Mean in the Middle East?"]

[Text] President Reagan is concealing the secret desires of U.S. imperialism when he denies Arabs the right to defend their interests against the continuing U.S.-Israeli aggression. Pointedly and in this manner, one can explain the unfounded accusations of the U.S. President against the Soviet Union. Reagan claims the USSR does not help, while in fact it gives help to the Arab countries to defend the unity and independence of their territory -- in establishing stability according to the American way dreamed of by the U.S. President. Like every independent nation, the Arabs are fully entitled to buy from any country, including the Soviet Union, weapons which they need for their defense, and to repulse the aggression of others against them. Had there not been U.S.-Israeli aggression, the Arab countries would not have needed to strengthen their armed forces.

The USSR policy in the Middle East is directed toward solving the Middle East conflict as quickly as possible through political means, in the interest of the peoples of all states in this region and in the interest of peace. No one can blame the Soviet Union for the contrary. However, we believe that this conflict can rightly be solved when the legitimate rights of the Arab peoples are taken into consideration, especially the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to establishing their state. However, the United States denies these legitimate national rights to the Palestinian people. In this manner, the USSR and U.S. policies are diametrically opposed. The Soviet policy stems from the principle of the independence of the peoples and respect for their rights. The U.S. policy is based on the credibility of the United States subjugating the peoples and states, i.e., denying them their independence.

Can this U.S. policy create some stability in the Middle East? The experience of history indicates that no nation can be destroyed, and its national interest cannot be permanently violated. As long as the United States continues to exercise with rash stupidity a policy aimed at crushing the national will of the Arabs and subjugating them to the United States and Israel, the Arab people will not surrender. The matter concerns their life and the danger of being wiped out.

The U.S. policy in the Middle East consists of flagrantly interfering in the internal affairs of other peoples and countries including the use of its armed forces, as it is how doing in Lebanon. It is the main source for the destabilized situation in this country. Naturally, this policy arouses legitimate resistance from victims of the aggression. If the United States was in fact concerned about peace and tranquility in the Middle East, it would not have boycotted the UN conference on the Palestinian question held in August and September of last year, in which 139 countries participated. The United States feared participation in the Geneva conference because it did not have a policy which it could present to the whole world without endangering the exposure of its vile plans. We can recall the recent role of the UN General Assembly. The United States and Israel became isolated in front of world public opinion when the subject of aggression in the Middle East was debated. The proposal leading to peace in this region was supported.

The following question presents itself: Who actually needs war? Who needs instability in the Middle East? Has it not been the United States who needs this?

Another aspect of U.S. policy in the Middle East is now becoming clearer. This is indicated by the agreements of strategic cooperation recently reached between the United States and Israel. This concerns the flagrant U.S. military presence permanently remaining in the Middle East. In this manner, the matter will result in the ability of the United States to use the Middle East region as a point of military concentration in its general strategy bent on gaining domination over the world. The Americans are not concerned if the Arab countries want or do not want to be involved against their will in a worldwide atomic conflict with all its consequences. The United States insistently tries to make not only the peoples of Europe hostage to its hostile policy by speedily deploying its nuclear missiles, but also the peoples of the Middle East.

Reagan delivers lengthy speeches about the United States being concerned about stability in the Middle East in order to conceal the truly evil plans of his administration. Bringing down the curtain to conceal the real designs has become the normal method of U.S. foreign policy. As the Middle East adage goes: If you repeat the word sweet 100 times, it does not mean you have tasted a sweet. The United States cannot through any expressions of peace conceal the reality of its policy of domination, aggression, and war.

U.S., ISRAEL APPROACH TO LEBANON CRITICIZED

PM231128 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Konstantin Geyvandov "Political Observer's Opinion": "Let's Call Things by Their Proper Names"]

[Text] Today it seems nobody is surprised to note that there is complete unanimity between the U.S. ruling circles and Israel's rulers in the approach to Near East problems and their attitude toward the Arabs.

If anybody still doubts this, let him heed the latest utterances by both countries' official spokesmen regarding the occupation of Lebanon by U.S. and Israeli troops. Thus, two Republican Senators -- Tower, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, and Warner, a member of that committee -- accordingly maintain that the withdrawal of the U.S. Marines from Lebanon would have "catastrophic consequences." Returning recently from the Near East, they reported their conclusions to President Reagan and he was delighted with them. Israeli Defense Minister Arens is in complete agreement with them, stating that the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from southern Lebanon would lead "to complete anarchy."

Of course, they all "highly assessed" the role of their military in this, thinking of their own interests and the interests of the American-Israeli "strategic alliance." As for Lebanon, the country's occupation by Israeli and U.S. troops is already having catastrophic consequences for it and creating complete anarchy. The Israeli occupiers have already effectively seized one-third of Lebanese territory, implanting their own ways there by fire and the sword. In an attempt to effect the age-old dream of U.S. imperialism and Zionism of redrawing the map of the Near East, they are doing their utmost while in Lebanon to kindle intercommunal strife in the country to facilitate its partition. The Israeli Air Force repeatedly makes barbarous raids on Lebanon in order to break the Lebanese patriots' opposition to these criminal plans for their state.

This is on the one side. On the other side, the U.S. troops "work" in close cooperation with their Israeli assistants. U.S. Marines, warships, and ship-based aircraft have been thrown into combat against Lebanese national patriotic forces and the Syrian contingent of the Inter-Arab Peacekeeping Forces. In this way, the American-Israeli occupiers are counting on foisting on Lebanon come what may from the agreement of 17 May last year, which essentially transforms that country into a U.S. and Israeli domain. Washington sees this as an opportunity to effect the next stage of the Camp David process, which, according to its designs, is to lead to the withdrawal of all the Arab countries one after the other from the struggle against Israeli aggression and expansion and facilitate and fulfillment of the hegemonist U.S. plans in the Near East. For this reason, it is no surprise that the Americans are doing their utmost to obstruct the instigation of national dialogue and, in particular, by sending the Marines and warships into operation have foiled the implementation of the latest Arab program for ensuring security in Lebanon.

As information recently leaked to the press shows, the U.S. Administration's designs with regard to Lebanon go even further. It has already been noted that redrawing the map of the Near East is an age-old dream of U.S. imperialism and Zionism. Here the United States and Israel are unanimous in the opinion that a start to this process can be made in Lebanon. The newspaper AL-BAYAN, published in the United Arab Emirates, recently cast a certain light on the practical steps Washington is taking in this direction. During his recent visit to the region, it reported, U.S. presidential envoy Rumsfeld tried to convince Lebanese officials that the partition of Lebanon is "the best way to settle the crisis that has enveloped the country." According to him, the Reagan administration has already elaborated a project creating eight cantons on Lebanese territory in which the various religious communities would live. Only it is still not known if all Lebanese territory is liable to be divided into eight parts or if the country's Israeli-occupied south has already been excluded.

In the light of these far-reaching American-Israeli designs vis-a-vis Lebanon, the bitter military and political pressure that Washington and Tel Aviv are exerting on Syria, which is one of the most serious obstacles to their implementation, is understandable. The aforementioned Senator Warner recommended to President Reagan that he "talk very tough to Syria," and his advice was evidently taken when White House envoy Rumsfeld was last in Damascus. However, judging by press reports, this "language" did not produce the effect desired by their U.S. interlocutor on the Syrian leaders. They reaffirmed that they reject the crushing Israeli-Lebanese agreement of 17 May last year, which transforms Lebanon into an Israeli vassal, and they insist on the unconditional withdrawal from that country of the Israeli occupying forces, the U.S. Armed Forces, and the contingents of other NATO members.

What do official Lebanese spokesmen think about U.S. and Israeli actions? Here, in particular, is the opinion of the country's prime minister Sh. al-Wazzan, expressed in a recent interview with the Beirut paper AL-LIWA: He laid all the responsibility for the situation created in Lebanon and the Near East as a whole on the United States, stressing that Washington is providing full backing for Israel and giving it comprehensive military, financial, and diplomatic support. Al-Wazzan resolutely condemned the plans for partitioning Lebanon, demanded that the United States fulfill the commitment to secure the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Lebanese territories, and stated that his government will not ratify the agreement with Israel.

So, gentlemen from Washington and Tel Aviv, let us call things by their proper names. The withdrawal of the American-Israeli occupying forces from Lebanon will not be a "catastrophe" and will not lead to "complete anarchy." It will simply make a start on the process of extricating the country from the crisis and restoring its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence. This will be weighty contribution to the efforts to lessen regional tension and check terrorist activity, for which President Reagan called in this last speech.

U.S.-ISRAELI 'COLLUSION' MUST MEET ARAB 'REBUFF'

LD240032 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Fedor Nikolayev commentary: "The Anti-Arab Alliance in Action"]

[Excerpts] The first meeting of the joint U.S.-Israeli political-economic committee is due to take place in Washington. Thus the Reagan administration engages in the practical implementation of agreements with the Israeli Government over consolidating strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel. A part of these agreements has been published after the visit paid to Washington by Shamir, the Israeli prime minister.

The two months that have passed since then have underlined with fresh impetus the anti-Arab nature of U.S.-Israeli collusion. Here are just a few facts: First, Washington has once and for all lifted the mask of an unbiased mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict, and is openly resorting to military pressure and the use of force against anyone opposing Israeli expansionism and U.S. domination in the Middle East.

Second, Washington is clearly banking on the Israeli military clique, trying through it to achieve its hegemonistic ambitions in the region. This is shown by, among other things, the fact that the United States has announced the resumption of deliveries of shells and cluster bombs to Israel, together with more large-scale military aid, with facilities and donations, ignoring the anger of the Arab countries.

Third, during the last two months, the Reagan administration increased the U.S. military presence in Lebanon, and it is waging a real war against the Lebanese people. At the same time, it puts pressure on Syria to the point of direct military provocations against its forces in Lebanon, which are under a mandate of the Arab League.

Anyone taking a principled stand will clearly realize that the U.S.-Israeli collusion and practical steps taken by Washington and Tel Aviv are a genuine threat to the Arab countries, and that success in thwarting these aggressive U.S.-Israeli plans is possible only if there is cohesiveness between the Arab states. If the United States and Israel realize that their arrogance will be met with adequate confrontation from all the Arab states and a cohesive Arab rebuff, they will never dare act in such an arrogant manner.

DRAMATIC DETERIORATION OF BEIRUT SECURITY WARNED

LD241048 Moscow TASS in English 0946 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Kuwait January 24 TASS -- Kuwaiti News Agency reports from Beirut:

The French and British families here will be asked to be prepared for leaving the country at any moment, a diplomatic source told KUNA Monday. The source, who requested anonomity said the move is linked to growing signs that the security situation in the Lebanese capital is very likely to deteriorate dramatically.

ICO SUMMIT HIGHLIGHTS INCREASING U.S. ISOLATION

LD212027 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 21 Jan 84

[Commentary by Andrey Nikolayev]

[Text] The fourth conference of the heads of states and governments of the countries members of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] has concluded its work. Forty-two delegations, 25 of which were represented by the heads of states and governments, took part in the work of the organization's summit conference.

Observers unanimously point out, as they comment on the results of the Casablanca meeting, that the situation in the Middle East, noticeably exacerbated since the signing of the American-Israeli agreement on strategic cooperation, and the Palestinian problem were the main topics of the meeting. During the many debates, it was often pointed out that Tel Aviv's increased aggressiveness and Washington recourse to direct participation in the military operations in Lebanon are considered a direct result of the American-Israeli collusion.

The resolution adopted by the ICO conference on this matter strongly condemns U.S. encouragement for the Israeli aggressors and the boundless assistance it extends to the Zionists. The resolution specifically condemns the raid by U.S. aircraft on positions of the Syrian unit on 4 December. This resolution strongly criticized the statements of the members of the Reagan administration to the effect that the U.S. aircraft will continue their flights over Syrian positions. The general resolution on the Middle East stressed the urgent need to establish a lasting and just peace in this region on the bases of the resolutions of the Fes declaration, adopted by the heads of the states and governments of the Arab countries.

The ICO conference once again affirmed the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state. The PLO was once again described as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The participants in the fourth ICO Conference called on Iran and Iraq to halt their fighting and to withdraw their forces back to international recognized borders. They understand Iraq's attempts directed toward stopping the bloodshed.

Although a fair time has to pass before the texts of the adopted resolutions are studied, it is possible to say now, on sound foundation, that the ICO summit conference in Casablanca was of an anti-imperialist nature, especially -- this also is important -- because the United States and its puppets on the eve and during the conference made hopeless attempts to divert the debate from the main issues and tried to impose provocative issues on the conference for debate to split the unity of the ICO ranks. The conflict was also sharp over the final texts of the resolutions, because some of the countries closely linked with Washington, such as Pakistan, which clearly clings to Washington's instructions, sought to omit criticism of U.S. imperialism from the resolutions or to dilute it. However, their efforts failed. U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism were on trial in Casablanca.

Another positive point is the fact that Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations during the ICO conference, proposed the convening of a special conference on the Middle East. This proposal is in line with the resolution of the 38th session of the UN General Assembly adopted by the overwhelming majority of the international organization. The Soviet Union repeatedly called for holding such a special international conference with the participation of all parties concerned including the PLO. However, this initiative was not supported by the United States or by Israel, because their aim is not to establish lasting and just peace in the Middle East but to achieve their imperialist designs through force.

The approval of the participants in the Casablanca meeting for the Fes declaration and the the text of the resolution on the Middle East indicates the increasing support for the program settlement in the Middle East on the bases of the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories and the application of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab peoples. It also indicates the increasing political isolation of the United States and the increasing lack of confidence of the Arab and other countries in Washington.

CPSU MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO BA'TH COMMAND

JN231828 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command has received a message from the CPSU Central Committee in reply to the National Command's memorandum to the fraternal and friendly parties on the political developments in the region.

The CPSU Central Committee's message reiterates the support of the USSR and all militant forces in the world for our just and principled struggle in defense of our people's just rights and our nation's objectives of liberation and victory.

Regarding the current developments in the Arab arena, the CPSU Central Committee asserted the identity of views on the analysis of events, and on the imperialist-Zionist escalation of these events.

The CPSU Central Committee's message says: We agree on the evaluations presented by our friends in Syria on the aggressive nature of the actions of imperialism and its agents against the Arab people in general, and Syria and Lebanon in particular.

These actions may endanger peace in this region and the world, especially since the United States is expanding its interference in other countries' affairs, and it is also working in accordance with the strategic cooperation agreement with Israel and in cooperation with its NATO allies. The United States is trying to subjugate the Arab countries to direct military and political hegemony. To achieve this purpose, the U.S.-Israeli aggressive alliance is trying to destroy the PLO, to remove it from the conflict with imperialism and Zionism, and to revitalize the 17 May agreement of submission which is imposed on the Lebanese people.

In its message to the National Command, the CPSU Central Committee asserted that the USSR denounces the imperialist and Zionist schemes and aggressive provocations against our Arab people, and reiterates its solid and firm support for Arab Syria, and its heroic steadfastness in the face of aggressive schemes.

REPORT ON TALKS WITH ISRAELI CP OFFICIALS

PM241000 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting at the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A meeting was held on 18 January between K.U. Chernenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and K.N. Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Section and a delegation of the Communist Party of Israel [CPI] comprising M. Wilner, general secretary of the CPI Central Committee, U. Burstein, member of the CPI Central Committee Politburo, G. Tubi, secretary of the CPI Central Committee, and L. Zehavi, candidate member of the CPI Central Committee.

The CPSU representatives spoke of the successes achieved in implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and of the Soviet Union's foreign policy steps aimed at maintaining peace and countering the aggressive militarist course of U.S. imperialist circles. The CPI delegation gave a high assessment of the Soviet Union's principled and invariably peace-loving position, set forth in the 28 September and 24 November 1983 statements by Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The CPI delegation gave a briefing on its party's struggle against the Israeli ruling circles' aggressive course with regard to the Arab countries and the colonization and cruel oppression of the population of the occupied Arab territories and for the rallying of all peace-loving forces of different ideological views for the sake of a just and lasting peace in the Near East. The Israeli Communists rebuff the offensive against working people's rights and resolutely oppose the discrimination against the Arab population in Israel, the mounting threat of a fascistization of political life, and the unbridled anti-Soviet propaganda being conducted in the country.

The CPSU representatives declared their solidarity with the struggle of the Israeli Communists -- Jews and Arabs -- who are opposing from the standpoint of patriots and internationalists the predatory policy of the Zionist ruling circles and advocating a just settlement of the Near East conflict and peace and friendship among the peoples.

The meeting participants stated that the aggressive U.S. policy and the sharp escalation in the arms race which it has begun have resulted in a serious exacerbation of international tension and an intensification of the danger of thermonuclear conflict.

Unceremoniously declaring various regions of the world to be zones of its "vital interests," Washington is blatantly flouting the norms of international law and states' sovereignty. This is attested by the American invasion of Grenada, the interventionist U.S. actions in Central America, its armed interference in Lebanon, and the blackmail and intimidation campaign against Syria. Expanding its military presence and siting military bases and garrisons on other states' territory, the United States is striving to use them in its aggressive plans aimed against the Soviet Union, the other socialist community countries, and the national liberation movements.

The representatives of both parties stated that the siting of the new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe is a real threat to the security not only of the socialist states, but also of the Mediterranean, Near East, and North African countries.

The sides stressed the importance in today's conditions of the activation of all peace-loving forces and of their cohesive action with a view to blocking the path of the growing war danger and turning the course of events toward an improvement in the international climate.

The CPSU and CPI representatives pointed out that the aggressive, expansionist nature of U.S.-Israeli accords on "strategic cooperation" has already been displayed in the coordination of U.S. and Israeli interventionist acts in Lebanon. The U.S.-Israeli alliance, created on the false pretext of countering the "Soviet threat," is aimed against the sovereignty and interests of the peoples of the Near East and Africa. It also runs counter to the vital interests of the people of Israel, whose territory is becoming a base for the siting of U.S. arms.

The meeting participants resolutely advocated the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli and U.S.-NATO troops from Lebanon and an end to the anti-Syrian provocations and threats. They declared their support for the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including the right to self-determination and the creation of an independent state. A just peace in the Near East can be achieved only if the Israeli troops are withdrawn from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967 and if the right of all the peoples and states of the region, including the state of Israel, to free development and secure existence is ensured.

The sides condemned the policy pursued by the United States and Israel of imposing on the Arab states separate deals that hinder the achievement of a comprehensive settlement and which exacerbate the situation in the Near East. They stated once again that the Near East conflict can be resolved only by collective efforts, by convening an international conference with the participation of the USSR, the United States, and all interested parties, including the PLO as the sole legal representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

The CPSU and CPI representatives stressed that under present conditions cohesion and unity of action on the part of communist and workers parties are of special importance. They advocated the further development of fraternal cooperation between Soviet and Israeli Communists and the proven basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

The meeting was held in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

TUNISIAN CP ISSUES STATEMENT ON FOOD RIOTS

PM231506 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jan 84 First Edition p 5

[Yuriy Vladimirov article under the rubric "We Reply to the Reader": "Tunisia's 'Smoldering Coals'" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] A. Tikhonov, a reader from Noginsk near Moscow, asks us to describe the causes of the recent acute social disturbances in Tunisia.

Early January in Tunis was marked by mass spontaneous demonstrations by the population. They were accompanied by considerable material damage to the city's buildings and transport facilities. The authorities declared a state of emergency in the country. Army subunits were used to establish control. Their actions caused casualties.

The pretext for the demonstrations, which had tragic consequences, was the government's decision to sharply increase food prices. This step was attributable to last year's poor harvest and difficulties arising from a reduction in foreign currency receipts owing to the crisis in Europe. However, there are also profound causes behind the country's grave situation. Since the early seventies, Tunisia has been pursuing a course of "economic liberalism." Its essence is to encourage private enterprise and attract foreign capital into the country's national economy. The accelerated development of calitalist relations provoked a deepening of class differentiation. Considerable wealth is concentrated in a few hands, while the overwhelming majority of the country's population of 7 million can scarcely make ends meet.

Orienting the national economy on Western countries, primarily the Common Market, Tunisia remains unprotected from all the ills of the capitalist world, especially unemployment. There are 400,000 completely or partially unemployed people in the country. A large number of Tunisians are forced to seek a living abroad.

In the opinion of the Tunisian Communist Party, the underlying causes of the January events were precisely "the capitalist orientation and the glaring social inequality which exist in the country." In a published statement, the Tunisian Communist Party expressed regret at the acts of violence, arson, destruction, and robbery which accompanied the protest movement, in which politically unorganized youth played a prominent role. To overcome the acute crisis which has emerged in Tunisian society, there must be broad and free discussion on the question of price formation and on ways to eliminate unemployment and change the country's economic and social course with the participation of all the nation's democratic forces, the Communists' statement says.

Judging by reports being received from Tunis, the situation in the country is being normalized. However, foreign observers note, the measures being taken by the government do not solve the socioeconomic problems altogether. The 'smothering coals' are not being extinguished.

MINSK METROPOLITAN ON CONVENT ATTACK IN ISRAEL

LD201847 Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- "Again and again my thoughts return with deep sorrow to the Gornensky Nunnery of the Orthodox Church in the holy places of Palestine", a TASS correspondent was told by the Metropolitan of Minsk and Belorussia Filaret, a member of the Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church.

"Last year the leadership of our church was forced to send a telegram to the President of Israel Hayim Herzog in connection with a terrible crime -- the murder of two nuns of the nunnery -- Varvara and Veronika Vasipenko. It was expected that those guilty of the crime would not avoid retribution and the sisters at the Gornensky Nunnery would be able to continue in calm their spiritual calling in the Holy Land. But now we are witnesses of a new terrorist action. It was only by sheer luck that Glafira Sorokina, a nun at the same nunnery, escaped death when her cell was destroyed by an explosion".

Yesterday the Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia Pimen sent a new telegram to the president of Israel expressing hope that the state authorities of that country will take resolute measures to protect from danger the representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church in Jerusalem, Metropolitan Filaret said.

Noting that instances of attacks on the nuns and of defiling the nunnery's churches and cemetery are continuing, the metropolitan said: "We have brought many of such instances to the attention of the state authorities of Israel hoping that they would take the necessary measures".

"The continuing shameful tactics of terrorism, the new tragic incident in the nunnery", he said, "bear witness with particular urgency of the need to create conditions ensuring in full measure the normal course of life at the institutions of the Russian Orthodox Church in the Holy Land".

As reported by Metropolitan Filaret, "The events at the Gornensky Nunnery cause anguish to all believers of the Russian Orthodox Church". The Russian piritual mission in Jerusalem and the nunnery exist from the past century: The mission was established in 1847 and the nunnery in 1871. This reflected the striving of Russian Christians to visit the Holy Land.

The metropolitan said that "the distance and difficulties of the journey did not stop pilgrims to that land of memories holy to every Christian. The mission and the monastery have helped and continue to help believers in making their pilgrimage".

KISSINGER COMMISSION'S REPORT 'UNREALISTIC'

LD231135 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Fom the "Moscow Viewpoint" program, by Valentin Zorin]

[Excerpts] There has been much talk lately about the report of the Kissinger commission on Central America, but in fact that report has not brought in anything new and essential to official Washington's line regarding the countries in the area, and this apparently is what caused President Reagan's delight. The White House got what it wanted from the commission and is elated. The aim of setting up the commission was from the very outset to provide respectability to official Washinton's dangerous actions in Central America, and it is hardly surprising that Henry Kissinger was chosen to head the body. He is one of the men who shaped Washington's political course in Vietnam, a course which led to one of the most shameful failures in United States history, and Mr Kissinger bears a large share of responsibility for that fiasco.

The essence of the Kissinger commission's report lies in attempting to convince Americans of the need to build up United States interference in the affairs of Central American countries. For this reason, the popular movements in those countries are portrayed as actions by agents of Moscow and Havana, which is the result, you see, of an international communist conspiracy. It's insignificant that even a man like Daniel Moynihan, a leading figure on the Special Senate Committee for Intelligence, stated that in the Kissinger commission report he did not find a single thing proving that Soviet and Cuban policy regarding Central America posed a threat to the interests of the United States' national security. There was, he felt, no evidence of that.

The basic flaw of the Kissinger commission's report, and indeed the basic flaw of Washington's current policy as a whole regarding the countries of Central America, is that the men in Washington cannot or do not want to realize that what's happening south of the Rio Grande is not the result of somebody's intrigues. It's the legitimate reaction of the people to their (?home) problems, poverty, hunger, no land for the ordinary farmer and the terror of the antipopular juntas. The Reagan administration is banking on force, but this cannot solve the problems of Central American countries.

The insolvency of the Kissinger commission is seen precisely in the fact that it has proved unable to see the roots of what is going on in the countries of Central America. Hence the unrealistic character of its recommendations and the danger they carry with them. By projecting the slogan of preventing a second Cuba, the men in Washington are risking a second Vietnam. Banking on yesterday, on regimes that owe their continuing existence only to United States military and financial aid is something that threatens to draw the United States into lengthy hostilities and in the long run into conflicts with many tens of millions of people who inhabit the South American Continent.

'SUBVERSIVE' U.S. SURINAME POLICY CRITICIZED

PM231250 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by A. Cherepanov under the rubric "International Notes": "Using the Arm-Twisting Method"]

[Text] Once embarked on a "crusade" against the world revolutionary movement, the U.S. Administration no longer wants to stop. It is being particularly strenuous in unleashing its cohorts to fight for "democracy" south of the Rio Grande.

Every method is being brought into play: from economic pressure and blackmail to preparing and implementing plans to overthrow legitimate governments in Latin American countries. Suriname has also recently become a subject of Washington's close attention.

A very tense situation has taken shape in that country. The administration of the U.S. bauxite mining company Suralco operating here tried to compel the ruling National Military Council headed by its chairman Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse to resign. To this end, strike breakers were recruited from the ranks of the bauxite industry workers and employees and from workers at power stations and the water supply system. Having formed picket lines in front of plants and factories in Paramaribo, the capital of Suriname, they urged the country's working people to undertake a nationwide strike. Those who refused to strike were threatened with reprisals.

The National Military Council described the Suralco administration's actions as subversive and aimed against the revolutionary process that is being carried out in the country. To ensure the normal operation of enterprises, including those belonging to the U.S. company, the authorities sent troops to their premises, to which the company's board responded by dismissing 5,000 workers. As a result, 20,000 working people in related industries have also found themselves without work.

Suralco's hostile steps are fully supported by the White House. Indeed, how could it fail to be involved when, back in December 1982, it was the White House which came out with the initiative to halt any economic aid to the Paramaribo regime. All previously signed cooperation programs were immediately annulled. Official Washington hoped that this step would "sober up" the government of the country, which had embarked on "the wrong path." But that did not happen.

Arm-twisting in the economic field, to judge by numerous instances, is not the only instrument of U.S. "Suriname policy." It is based on CIA plans to overthrow the lawful power in the country. Since February 1980, the U.S. special services have staged eight attempted rightwing coups in Suriname. An eloquent figure, is it not: an organized antigovernment rebellion every 6 months.

When the initiators of the latest plot (at the end of November 1983) were arrested they were found to be in possession of a list of government leaders of the former Dutch colony scheduled for "physical annihilation."

What is it about the present regime in Paramaribo that has displeased the U.S. Administration? Its "overindependent" policy in the world arena and its revolutionary transformations. The U.S. monopolies are afraid of losing access to a strategic raw material -- Suriname's bauxite. But Suriname does not intend to give in to U.S. blackmail, provocations, and threats. It is continuing to strugge for its establishment as an independent state and for its national rights and freedoms.

CUBAN VICE FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS KIEV, MOSCOW

AU201816 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Giraldo Mazola, vice minister of foreign relations from the Republic of Cuba, recently paid a familiarization visit to Kiev. He was received by Masik, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman. During a conversation, the visitor was familiarized with the implementation of the 26th CPSU Congress decisions and with the fulfillment of the plans for the republic's socioeconomic development in the 11th 5-year period by the working people of the Ukrainian SSR.

Mazola was received by Martynenko, Ukrainian minister of foreign affairs. A friendly conversation was held. A luncheon was given in honor of the visitor. The guest visited the memorial complex -- the Ukrainian State Museum of the History of the Great Patriotic War 1941-45, saw projects, and historical and architectural monuments of Kiev. On 19 January, Mazola left for Moscow.

BRIEFS

ILICHEVSK-HAVANA SEA ROUTE -- In recent years, the volume of freight transportation on the Ilichevsk-Havana international sea route has increased by 50 percent. The route links large Soviet Black Sea ports with the capital city of Cuba. The ships of the Black Sea steamship line deliver Soviet farm equipment, mineral fertilizers, and various equipment to Cuba. On the way back, they bring to the USSR traditional Cuban export goods. [Text] [Kiev in Ukrainian to North America 2200 GMT 14 Jan 84 AU]

ANDROPOV SIGNS P.K. PONOMARENKO OBITUARY

PM231422 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 January 1984 First Edition publishes on page 3 the 450-word obituary of (former CPSU Central Committee Secretary) P.K. Ponomarenko, who died 18 January in his 82d year "after a long, serious illness." The obituary is signed by Yu. V. Andropov, G.A. Aliyev, V.I. Vorotnikov, M.S. Gorbachev, V.V. Grishin, A.A. Gromyko, D.A. Kunayev, G.V. Romanov, M.S. Solomentsev, N.S. Tikhonov, D.F. Ustinov, K.U. Chernenko, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, P.N. Demichev, V.I. Dolgikh, V.V. Kuznetsov, B.N. Ponomarev, V.M. Chebrikov, E.A. Shevardnadze, M.V. Zimyanin, I.V. Kapitonov, Ye. K. Ligachev, K.V. Rusakov, N.I. Ryzhkov, N.N. Slyunkov, I.Ye. Polyakov, V.I. Brovikov, P.A. Abrasimov, V.Ye. Lobanok, and R.N. Machulskiy.

CPSU POLITBURO HAILS CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S ISAYEV

PM231437 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 84 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Gratitude for Conscientious Work"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee Politburo has expressed gratitude on his retirement to Comrade Vasiliy Yakovlevich Isayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, for his conscientious work for the good of the party and the people.

ALIYEV ADDRESSES TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY MEETING

LD231915 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] An expanded session of the Collegium of the Ministry of Transportation Construction and the presidiums of the central committees of trade unions of railway workers, transportation construction, vehicle, and road transportation workers was held in Moscow today. Comrade Sosnov, minister of transportation construction, reported on the tasks of the sector.

It was pointed out that the sector has fulfilled plans for commissioning basic transportation capacities and installations, railway lines, main roads, underground lines, and other installations. Targets in building BAM, the Western Siberian Oil and Gas, the Ekibastuz Fuel and Energy, and Astrakhan Gas Complexes have been carried out. At the session, measures were introduced to raise labor and plan discipline, eliminate shortcomings, and ensure the fuller use of internal reserves. Great attention was paid to solving the sector's social problems. Speaking at the Collegium session was Comrade Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy premier of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Comrade Dmitriyev, head of the Construction Department of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Guzhenko, minister of the maritime fleet; and Comrade Konarev, minister of railways, took part in the work of the session.

NURIYEV WRITES ON FOOD PROGRAM TASKS

PM201140 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 84 First Edition pp 2-3

[Article by Z. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission for the Agro-industrial Complex: "The Food Program--All the People's Cause"]

[Text] Our party has always devoted the keenest attention to the resolution of the food problem. The task of fully satisfying the population's requirements for high quality food products, and the industry's needs for agricultural raw materials, has been set and is being resolved consistently. Working people in the agro-industrial complex received with great satisfaction the results of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum and the text of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech.

The plenum's decisions mobilize us to consistently strengthen our motherland's economic and defense might and develop the Soviet people's well-being. Extremely great importance is attached to accelerating the development of the agrarian sector of our socialist economy.

I.

Since the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum, work to fulfill the Food Program has reached a new, higher level. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo systematically, profoundly, and comprehensively examines questions connected with developing the agro-industrial complex, improving management, organizing labor, enhancing cadres' sense of responsibility and discipline, and improving production efficiency in every way.

As is well known, in accordance with the Food Program the management of the agro-industrial complex has been restructured. More than 3,100 rayon agro-industrial associations have been formed in the country, comprising kolkhozes, sovkhozes, enterprises, and organizations with a total of more than 31 million people working in them. The rayon agro-industrial associations have united 52,000 farms, some 7,500 industrial enterprises, nearly 23,000 servicing enterprises and organizations, and more than 17,000 other enterprises and organizations.

The economic machinery is being improved. This makes possible better coordination of the work of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, enterprises, organizations, ministries, and departments belonging to the agro-industrial complex. Comprehensive measures have been adopted to improve the rural economy. Purchase prices for produce have been increased and supplements to prices introduced for farms making little or no profit. Sectors of the agro-industrial complex are allocated capital investments and material and other resources in the planned amounts.

Economic policy in the agrarian sector provides for the elimination of bottlenecks and disproportions. Special attention is paid to increasing the land fertility, land reclamation, the use of chemicals, and to increasing grain and feed production on this basis. The proportion of capital used to save human labor is increasing considerably. Substantial investments are allocated for strengthening the base for the storage and processing of output and for the social development of the countryside.

Significant qualitative changes are taking place in all spheres of the agro-industrial complex. Scientifically-substantiated arable farming systems are being introduced, and the structure of sown areas is being improved.

Modern resource-saving techniques and progressive forms of labor organization and incentives are meeting with increasing recognition. This applies above all to the collective contract.

II.

The measures adopted by the party and government are having a positive effect on the state of affairs in all sectors of the agro-industrial complex. Last year, as preliminary estimates show, agricultural produce worth R133.8 billion was produced. This is 5 percent more than in 1982. The entire increase was secured through increased labor productivity. Quite a good grain harvest was gathered in. Plans for grain sales were fulfilled by many republics, krays, and oblasts. Much is also being done to ensure the economical expenditure of grain. A significant proportion is used for feed purposes for cattle and sheep, so the task is to increase the production and improve the quality of coarse and succulent feed.

Instructive experience in this respect is already available. Let us cite the following figures: For instance in 1982, 15 million metric tons more hay, haylage, silage, and feed root crops, measured in feed units, were procured than in the previous year. Despite the fact that kolkhozes and state farms had 10 million metric tons less feed grain, they completed the wintering period comparatively well by using coarse and succulent feed, and produced a substantial increase in livestock products.

Last year, compared with the previous year, livestock units' stocks increased by 9 million metric tons in feed units. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in most of the union republics overfulfilled plans for the procurement of hay, haylage, and silage. Many farms created a stock sufficient for 18 months.

This structural shift in the feed balance is of great significance. It leads to a considerable saving of grain. Local party, soviet, and economic organs are set the task of ensuring that the production of milk, beef, lamb, and wool makes still greater use of coarse, succulent, and pasture feed.

In the third year of the 5-year plan a substantial sugar beet harvest was obtained. Plans for potato and vegetable sales were fulfilled. The cotton growers' selfless labor yielded quite good results. The planned crop of raw cotton was grown, harvested, and delivered to procurement centers. Purchasers of high value, fine-fiber varieties increase considerably.

Positive shifts were observed in livestock raising. Compared with 1982, the cattle population increased by 1.7 million head, hogs by 1.8 million, sheep and goats by 1.7 million, and poultry by 20 million. Animals' productivity increased. The state purchased 1,466,000 metric tons more livestock, 5,404,000 metric tons more milk, and 1.8 billion more eggs. The plan for wool sales was fulfilled.

The agricultural workers of the Volga Region, the Central Chernozem, and the RSFSR's Nonchernozem Zone have made a weighty contribution to the Food Program's implementation. In the Nonchernozem, for instance, all the oblasts and autonomous republics coped with grain procurement plans, and most of them with plans for procuring potatoes, vegetables, milk, livestock and poultry, and eggs. Measures being implemented by the party to transform this region are bearing fruit. There is an appreciable return on investments in irrigating the Volga lands and strengthening the material and technical base in the Central Chernozem countryside.

The economy of kolkhozes and sovkhozes has strengthened considerably. Through the growth in the volume of sales, the increase in purchasing prices, the introduction of supplements, and the improvement of product quality, their revenue has increased by approximately R20 billion.

Thus on the farms in the Bashkir ASSR it has increased by R457 million. This includes R167 million resulting from the increase in output sales, R150 million from increased purchase prices, and R111 million from supplements for farms making little or no profit. According to preliminary figures, the country's farms will obtain some R17 billion of profit. The level of overall profitability of agricultural production will be 17-18 percent, as compared to 1 percent in 1982.

Plans for the countryside's social developments are also being fulfilled. The construction of housing, cultural and health care facilities, schools, and children's preschool institutions, the provision of gas supplies, and road building have taken place at preferential rates. The process of improving the whole of the countryside's production and social infrastructure is continuing.

Collaboration between arable and livestock farmers and their partners in the agro-industrial complex is strengthening. The servicing of kolkhozes and sovkhozes by enterprises and organizations of the Goskomselkhoztekhnika [State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture] and the Soyuzselkhozkhimiya has improved markedly. There have been changes for the better in the work of water resources and construction organizations and the mixed feed and microbiological industry. Last year's plans were overfulfilled by enterprises in food sectors of industry. The food, meat, and dairy industry alone sold finished products worth R87.9 billion, as compared to the planned R85.8 billion. The targets set were exceeded by the flour milling and groats, fruit and vegetable, fish, and other sectors, compared with the year before last, more sugar and vegetable oil, margarine, bakery and confectionery products, tea, meat and meat products, butter, cheese, wholemilk products, and canned foods of various kinds were produced. Food sectors have reduced their losses of raw material, improved the quality and range of output, and ensured saving of energy resources and an increase in labor productivity.

III.

While noting what has been achieved, we must assess the situation realistically. The tasks ahead are complex. In accordance with the plan ratified by the USSR Supreme Soviet session, this year we must ensure gross agricultural output of R140.4 billion. This follows from the Food Program and accords with the fulfillment of tasks connected with increasing Soviet people's well-being.

"The plan," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee December Plenum, "is oriented to a greater extent than before toward increasing production efficiency."

Its strict fulfillment is not only an obligation, but a patriotic duty for every labor collective and every Soviet person. It is important to improve the utilization of land and production capital. And particularly the active part -- machinery, equipment, and also material and financial resources.

Certain rayons and oblasts, while receiving more and more machines and mineral fertilizers, have not yet secured a corresponding growth in the production of output. Thus, for farms in Altay Kray, the volume of capital investments increased by 120 percent compared with the 8th 5-Year Plan, tractor deliveries by 30 percent, deliveries of trucks by 100 percent, and mineral fertilizers by 270 percent. At the same time the average annual production of arable products hardly increased at all. The situation is approximately the same in the Buryat ASSR, Krasnoyarsk Kray, and Penza, Tambov, Yaroslavl, Kaluga, Pskov, and certain other oblasts. The cropgrowers and stockmen of Krasnodar Kray and Rostov, Voroshilovgrad, Donets, and Odessa Oblasta are working below their potential. Leading farms, under the same conditions, obtain 40-60 percent more output per hectare than the average, for instance, in the krays and oblasts mentioned. All this is evidence of major unutilized reserves.

It is necessary to improve the structure of sowings, selection, and seed production, and to introduce highly productive varieties more rapidly everywhere. There is special concern for agricultural hardware. In recent years, tens of thousands of machines have still been unrepaired even when the sowing or harvesting starts. There are great losses of work time within shifts. Some of the machinery stands idle because of the shortage of cadres.

The introduction of comprehensive mechanization in arable farming and livestock raising is also being delayed because industry has not yet smoothly organized the production of the hundreds of types of machinery and units which the countryside needs. Certain types of machinery are produced in insufficient quantities. Other machines which are supplied to kolkhozes and sovkhozes are obsolete, unreliable in operation, and of low productivity. Workers in the fields and livestock units and enterprises in the food sectors of industry hope that the machine building and chemical workers will accelerate the assimilation of new means of production and materials and increase the output of highly efficient types.

At least 970 million metric tons of organic fertilizers must be applied ready for the next harvest. Farms will receive 23.3 million metric tons of mineral fertilizers (in terms of nutrients) and 575,000 metric tons of chemical plant-protection agents (standard units). Agro-industrial associations and Selkhozkhimiya organizations must take measures to increase the effectiveness of their application. In regions where soil acidity is high, liming must be done in good time. It is important to ensure the optimum combination of all fertilizer components and to be bolder in changing over to local methods of applying fertilizers. This makes it possible to increase the return on chemical agents by approximately one-third.

Farmers are consistently mastering industrial techniques. Five years ago these techniques were used on 18,000 hectares, but last year they were used on 7.2 million hectares. Crops will be grown on a programmed basis on 3.2 million hectares of irrigated land. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo sets the task of ensuring a sharp increase in the efficiency of all reclaimed land. This will make it possible more rapidly to improve the productivity and stability of our cropgrowing.

In livestock units, it is important to keep up the pace achieved, increase livestock productivity, and reduce raising and fattening time. On the vast majority of farms there is enough feed to successfully get through the winter, improve the herd's reproduction and the population maintenance, and ensure a significant increase in production and purchases of produce. The main thing now is to preserve feed stocks and use them carefully and thriftily.

IV.

The successful resolution of the tasks set depends largely upon the work of the councils of agro-industrial associations and commissions for the agro-industrial complex. A year has elapsed since the creation of the new management organs. Most of them have focused attention on the main question of the Food Program's fulfillment. This means above all the full utilization of the economic potential created in the countryside. There has been a marked improvement in coordination in elaborating plans and adopting on-the-spot decisions on intersector issues.

The most attention is devoted to improving the servicing and material and technical supply of kolkhozes and sovkhozes and enhancing the efficiency of utilization of capital investments and all resources.

Farms' direct links with industrial and trading enterprises and organizations are strengthening. The network of procurement and processing centers and the reception of produce actually in the fields or at the livestock unit is expanding. The tasks of the countryside's social development are being resolved more successfully.

Purposeful work is being done, for instance, by the Moscow, Sverdlovsk, and Kuybyshev Oblast Agro-industrial Associations, Arzamaskiy Rayon Agro-industrial Association in Gorkiy Oblast, Novomoskovskiy in Tula Oblast, Pochepskiy in Bryansk Oblast, Vileyskiy in Minsk Oblast, Novoaleksandrovskiy in Stavropol Kray, and Shchuchinskiy in Kokchetav Oblast. Thus, in accordance with a decision of the council of the Yershovskiy Rayon Agro-industrial Association in Saratov Oblast, the meat combine's capacities are being increased to 10 tons of output a day out of the centralized fund. This will enable kolkhozes and sovkhozes to eliminate losses stemming from the delivery of livestock to the city of Engels for processing. Previously, the farms here suffered losses of R150,000 a year.

On the initiative of the Belgorod Oblast Agro-industrial Association, eight extra beet reception centers have been opened. Losses of produce have been reduced and transport operations improved. The sugar refineries helped the kolkhozes and sovkhozes to grow the beets; then the farmers, after completing the harvest, helped the food processing workers. Much has been done here to promote direct links between the farms and processing enterprises. The oblast's meat combines have organized centralized transportation of livestock from farms in nine rayons. By the end of the year this method will be used everywhere for milk deliveries too.

The council of Vileyskiy Rayon Agro-industrial Association in Minsk Oblast decided to transfer the mixed food trucks from the farms to the rayon Selkhoztekhnika. The feed is now delivered to the livestock units in good time. Labor productivity in motor transport has increased 50 percent and fuel expenditure has fallen. In Gomel Oblast's Kormyanskiy Rayon, on the rayon agro-industrial association council's initiative, a feed procurement detachment equipped with powerful machinery has been created. The machinery's output has increased 350 percent, and the prime cost of feed has fallen.

Many agro-industrial association councils are improving production and economic relationships between kolkhozes and sovkhozes on the one hand, and servicing enterprises on the other. In particular the partners' volumes of work and tariffs and rates for services have been revised. The associations create centralized funds and establish the terms for bonuses for servicing organizations.

But this is not happening everywhere. In a number of places the new organs have yet to reveal themselves. Much time is spent on holding all kinds of meetings and sessions. In some places the torrent of papers has even increased.

In a number of oblasts and rayons, leaders and specialists of agro-industrial associations have not gained a thorough enough mastery of the newly adopted normative documents, and are not clearly aware of their own rights and duties.

In Ulyanovsk Oblast the intersector liaison departments, which are very important for rayon agro-industrial associations, have not been set up in any of the 12 rayons agriculture administrations. The same can be said of certain other oblasts.

Life insistently demands an improvement in the style and methods of management of sectors within the agro-industrial complex and the elimination of excessive concern for trivia and petty tutelage of enterprises.

It is necessary to improve planning, skillfully combining territorial and sector interests, and to overcome manifestations of local and departmental narrowmindedness. The most important thing is to ensure balance in the plans and the careful linkage of all components in order to achieve high end results. Every agro-industrial association must have a precise program for eliminating bottlenecks and disproportions which reduce the efficiency of utilization of the potential created:

The new organs are called upon to concern themselves with the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and to analyze the results of work more thoroughly. How much has the farms' income increased, and why? Is it only because of price increases and supplements? Has organization improved, has an increase in volumes of output sales been achieved, has product quality improved? Particular attention must be paid to labor productivity and reducing prime cost. The work of the associations and their councils must be directed toward resolving these priority tasks. Increases in purchase prices and supplements cannot be allowed to conceal carelessness, laxity, of irresponsibility. That is why it is very important to make use of supplements, as a tool, attentively and totally objectively, as was laid down in the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers.

It is necessary to study carefully where the farms' income goes. Measures adopted by the party have improved the economic situation and provided an opportunity to bring about extended reproduction primarily from the farms' own sources of finance. Unfortunately, many kolkhozes and sovkhozes are still using bank loans to cover expenditure. The additional resources are channeled not into the accumulation fund, but into the consumption fund. That is not right. Wherever possible, it is necessary to do without credits, and if you do receive them, to return them promptly. In other words, expenditure must be covered by income. This is the principle of intelligent work and skillful economic management.

Last year saw a significant reduction in the number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes making a loss or little profit. But, unprofitable farms still remained. Agricultural organs and agro-industrial association councils must carefully examine the production and financial activity of such collectives. Weak kolkhozes and sovkhozes must be helped with resources, and the efficient utiliation of those resources must be ensured.

It is necessary to radically improve economic work at enterprises and organizations of the agro-industrial complex. It is a question of improving planning, accounting, and record-keeping and strengthening the policy of thrift.

At the CPSU Central Committee December Plenum Comrade Yu. V. Andropov set the task of achieving an above-plan increase in labor productivity of, say, 1 percent. For kolkhozes and sovkhozes this means a saving of 300 million hours of work time, and in all sectors of the agro-industrial complex it means more than 600 million hours. It is also quite possible to reduce the prime cost of output by an additional 0.5 percent. As a result the farms' outlay on production will be reduced by R600 million. The new organs must ensure not only the fulfillment of plans for output purchases and processing targets, but the improvement of qualitative indicators. This is promoted by the assimilation of progressive forms of labor organization and remuneration, first and foremost the collective contract. Introducing autonomous financing must be a subject of special concern for agro-industrial association councils and all economic and technical services.

Unfortunately, due attention is not paid to this everywhere. The USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission for the Agro-industrial Complex recently examined the question of the organization of autonomous financing on farms in Osh Oblast, Kirghiz SSR. And what emerged? Although it is reckoned that of the 147 farms, 90 kolkhozes and sovkhozes have assimilated the new method, at the same time many teams and livestock units have not gone over to autonomous financing principles. In 1,282 subunits, over-expenditure of resources was permitted to the tune of R6.5 million. It is clear that this is basically formal autonomous financing, only on paper. In recent years the oblast's kolkhozes have channeled the greater part of their gross income into consumption, and only an insignificant proportion into the accumulation fund. Farms tolerate failure to pay off bank loans on time, and the indebtedness to suppliers and contractors has increased.

Autonomous financing means constantly measuring expenditure against income, monitoring every ruble spent thriftlessly, and encouraging zeal and efficiency. Its entire machinery must be directed toward strengthening plan and executive discipline, increasing labor productivity, increasing the quantity and improving the quality of output, and reducing the expenditure of fuel, electricity, raw materials, and all material and financial resources on the production of every ton of end product. It is necessary to cultivate in working people in the agro-industrial complex an economic way of thinking. Everyone must realize that the enterprise's indicators and his personal prosperity depend on the efficiency and quality of his work, his thriftiness, and his level of discipline.

As is known, the success of the cause is determined by cadres and by their correct selection and placing. Agro-industrial associations must keep this most important sector in view. First and foremost, weak farms must be strengthened with good specialists. Special attention must be devoted to training middle-level leadership cadres who are capable of managing teams, livestock units, departments, and shops intelligently and with initiative.

Intensive work is now in progress in the livestock units, fields, and workshops. Stockmen seek to make better use of feed and ensure high livestock productivity. Machine operators and Selkhoztekhnika workers are putting machines and implements in order. Seed preparation and the stockpiling and transportation of fertilizers are in progress. In a word, workers in the agro-industrial complex are seeking to consolidate what has been achieved and take another step toward increasing the production and improving the quality of output and fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the Food Program.

SHCHERBITSKIY SPEAKS AT UKRAINIAN PARTY PLENUM

AU191430 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 13 Dec 83 pp 2-3

[RATAU report on report and concluding speech delivered by V. V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, at the 12 January Plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee -- passages in uppercase published in boldface]

[Text] Comrades: The CPSU Central Committee Plenum, held on 26-27 January 1983, discussed issues of vital importance for our party and all Soviet people.

It examined and for the most part approved the draft 1984 State Plan for Economic and Social Development and the draft 1984 State Budget. The USSR Supreme Soviet session which was held in succession sanctioned these documents.

As you know, the plenum unanimously resolved to promote Comrade V.I. Vorotnikov and Comrade M.S. Solomentsev from Politburo candidate membership to full membership, and elected Comrade V.M. Chebrikov Politburo candidate member and Comrade Ye.K. Ligachev Central Committee secretary. All those comrades are highly experienced in party and state activity, and enjoy well-deserved prestige in the party.

As is known, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, was unable to attend the plenary session. But he prepared for the plenum and sent the text of his speech, and all participants of the CPSU Central Committee plenum were familiarized with it. This important political document, published then in the press, determined the plenum's proceedings.

All comrades who took the floor at the plenum noted that Yuriy Vladimirovich profoundly and thoroughly analyzed the state of affairs in our economy, and set concrete and feasible tasks for 1984 and for the longer term. By the way, all these theses have been noted by the world press and favorably commented on by our friends.

THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM, HELD IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF HIGH EFFICIENCY AND ACTIVITY, FULLY AND ENTIRELY APPROVED THE ACTIVITY OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE POLITBURO IN THE PURSUIT OF THE DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY OUTLINED BY THE 26TH PARTY CONGRESS, AND THE NOVEMBER 1982 AND THE JUNE 1983 CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUMS; IT ALSO UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AND SUPPORTED THE ASSESSMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS SET FORTH IN YU. V. ANDROPOV'S SPEECH AT THE PLENUM.

As numerous responses have attested, the entire party and all Soviet people unanimously approve and actively support the plenum's decisions and the entire dynamic and purposeful activity of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. The plenum emphasized that the accomplishment of the pressing economic tasks, both the current and long-term ones, set by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, should be regarded as an important duty by each party organization, by all administrative and economic bodies and public organizations, by each communist.

The December 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum continued and developed the principled line traced at the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum in the field of economic and social policy. Its objective is to improve by all means the economic mechanism, the style and methods of management, to strengthen state, labor and plan discipline, to raise the standards of the organization, efficiency, and responsibility of cadres. In recent times, a great deal has already been done in this respect.

The Central Committee noted the importance of the task set by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov: to make a good start in the very first days of the year while maintaining the increased pace, to develop wide socialist competitions in order to absolutely cope with the planned targets, and to use every chance to overfulfill them. The main emphasis should be placed on raising management levels, accelerating scientific-technical progress, making fuller use of the production potential, of material, labor, and financial resources, on raising labor productivity, reducing costs, and intensifying the policy of economy at every enterprise and project, in every economic organization.

In their critical and constructive speeches, the plenum participants voiced many proposals and remarks, and raised substantial questions concerning the work of a number of national economic branches, improvements in the management system and in the use of existing resources, and the elimination of shortcomings.

While taking into account the great importance of the remarks and proposals made at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo has resolved to direct them to the appropriate USSR ministries and departments for examination with the participation of local party organs, and for taking measures necessary to implement them.

THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM REFLECTED THE ATMOSPHERE OF UNITY FIRMLY ESTABLISHLED IN OUR COUNTRY, OF COHESION AROUND THE LENINIST CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND ITS POLITBURO HEADED BY COMRADE YURIY VLADIMIROVICH ANDROPOV, AND IT WAS AN EVENT OF GREAT INTERNAL POLITICAL AND INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE.

While expressing the will of the communists and of all Soviet people, the plenum participants warmly endorsed the firm and consistent policy pursued by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo in the present complicated international situation, Comrade Yu. V. Andropov's statements on foreign political issues, and the urgent measures taken by our state in response to the dangerous activities of U.S. imperialism and its NATO allies. The CPSU Central Committee plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session confirmed our unwavering resolution to do the utmost to frustrate the machinations of imperialism.

The plenum and session documents, the USSR Supreme Soviet decision on the international situation and the Soviet state's foreign policy have convincingly shown our plans to be plans for peaceful creativity, have shown that solicitude for the people's prosperity was and remains the supreme goal in the entire activity of the party and the Soviet state.

In Moscow, in a conversation with me, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov wished all the Ukraine's communists and working people the best successes in 1984 in fulfilling the 11th 5-Year Plan.

The Results of the Country's and the Republic's Economic and Social Development in 1983 and in the 3 Years of the 5-Year Period

While defining tasks for the future, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized, the CPSU Central Committee plenum paid due attention to the implementation of the 26th party congress decisions.

In the current 5-year period, our country has made a large new step along the path of economic and social progress, and its defense potential has strengthened. In 1983, the rate of economic growth increased, the output of industrial and agricultural production rose, and the qualitative indexes improved somewhat. The real incomes of the population went up.

ON THE WHOLE, AS COMRADE Yu.V. ANDROPOV EMPHASIZED IN HIS SPEECH, THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER IN THE COUNTRY'S NATIONAL ECONOMY. Under the conditions of the present aggravated international situation, this is of high and principled importance. The plenum assessed in a worthy way the positive results of the intensive creative work performed by the Soviet people.

Following the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, things have also significantly improved in our republic. The pace of increasing production and labor productivity has increased appreciably. The plans for the output of most important industrially produced items have been fulfilled. The value of industrial production marketed in excess of the plan has totaled R1.945 billion. Compared with 1982, a substantial increase has been attained in the production of iron, steel, ready-rolled stock, mineral fertilizers, tractors, cement, fabrics, sugar (from beets), and many other production items. The plan was overfulfilled for high-quality production.

Under complex weather conditions, the agricultural workers obtained rather good yields of sugar beets, potatoes, and feed crops. Compared with 1982, an upward trend emerged in the production of meat, milk, and eggs. The plans for their procurement were exceeded, and this has made it possible to increase market stocks somewhat.

An improvement has been registered in transportation work. In capital construction, the plans have been ensured for completing houses, schools, children's and health establishments, and vocational schools. Some 109 highly important production capacities were put into operation including a "3000" mill at the Ilich Metallurgical Combine in Zhdanov, a new power block at the Chernobyl Atomic Power Station, an oil refining unit in Lisichansk, and others.

It is highly important to note that the results of work performed in 1983 made it possible to reduce -- and, in a number of indexes, to eliminate -- arrears and to attain the targets set for the 3 years of the 5-year period.

In the 3 years, the national income in the republic increased 12 percent against the planned 11.3 percent. The productivity of communal labor rose 12.2 percent as compared with the targeted 10.5 percent.

PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IS THE FACT THAT THE ENTIRE INCREASE IN THE NATIONAL INCOME WAS ATTAINED THROUGH THE INCREASED LABOR PRODUCTIVITY.

Fixed assets in the national economy increased more than 16 percent and reached a value of R337 billion, exceeding the 5-year targets by almost R10 billion. It is to be noted that, as a result of concentrating forces and resources on projects that are close to completion, fixed assets were put into operation more quickly and at lower cost. The volume of incomplete construction has now met the norms.

What appreciably helped these results to be attained was the purposeful work carried out to accelerate scientific-technical progress.

Since the beginning of the 5-year period, a great program of social measures has been carried out. The real incomes of the population have risen 8.2 percent, and the per-capita funds of communal consumption 13.2 percent. The average wages and salaries of the workers and employees have increased 7 percent, and labor payments to the kolkhoz peasants 15.8 percent. Retail commodity turnover has gone up 6.1 percent, and the volume of consumer services 15.2 percent. Some 53.5 million square meters of housing space have been put into service, or 3.1 million square meters more than targeted in the 5-year plan. This has made it possible to improve housing conditions for 4.5 million persons.

As you can see, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy said, the indexes are important. However, they must be correctly assessed, and what has been attained must be regarded as a basis for accomplishing new and more complex tasks.

WHAT MATTERS NOW THE MOST, the CPSU Central Committee plenum decision emphasized, IT IS TO MAINTAIN INCREASED PACE AND THE GENERAL DISPOSITION TO ACCOMPLISH THE TASKS IN PRACTICE, TO STEADILY RAISE THE STANDARDS OF PARTY AND STATE CONTROL IN THE ECONOMY, TO MORE VIGOROUSLY FOSTER THE POSITIVE TRENDS IN RAISING EFFECTIVENESS, AND TO MAKE THEM STABLE.

At the same time, one must be aware of the fact that, in the 3 years, the republic failed to attain the level set under the 5-year plan for some indexes. In particular, there is still strain in the work of the coal industry, ferrous metallurgy, the light, the meat and dairy industries.

What made its imprint in this field, in addition to some objective factors, were undoubtedly the shortcomings in the use of the production and scientific-technical potential, of labor, material-technical, and financial resources.

The share of enterprises falling short of the supply quotas and contract commitments, enterprises at which wages are growing faster than labor productivity, has been reduced, but is still large.

To cope with the rigorous, but feasible tasks set for 1984, it is absolutely necessary to eliminate these and other shortcomings.

Fulfilling the State Plan for Economic and Social Development

The rates and proportions envisaged under the 1984 state plan for the country's economic development, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy noted, are in line with the party's political and economic strategy, and are called upon to consolidate the positive trends of last year, and to ensure that communal production further develops dynamically and that the prosperity of the people rises.

THE FULFILLMENT OF THIS PLAN WILL MARK AN IMPORTANT STAGE IN IMPLEMENTING THE 11TH 5-YEAR SOCIOECONOMIC PROGRAM.

The characteristic feature of the plan is primarily the fact that it seeks more than before to raise production effectiveness, and to make fuller use of the scientific-technical and production potential. Point two: More emphasis has been put on the social purposefulness of the plan. Last but not least -- and this is to be emphasized in a particular way -- the plan provides everything necessary to keep the country's defense capacity at the appropriate level.

Our republic's plan and budget, which will be highlighted at length by Comrades V. A. Masol and V. P. Kozeruk, have been drafted fully in line with the union's plan and budget. The plenum participants have been provided with reference materials.

Above all, it is to be noted that the pace of economic development fixed for 1984 is significantly higher than that planned for 1983. Priority development rates have been envisaged for branches determinant for technical progress.

Moreover, the plan endeavors to rapidly accomplish the main strategic task set by the 26th party congress -- to ensure that our economy changes over to the predominantly intensive way of development. Provisions have been made for more rapidly raising labor productivity on the basis of a better use of scientific and technical achievements, of applying progressive technologies and advanced experience, and of persistent improvements in production management. The plan calls for an economically substantiated relationship between the rates of raising labor productivity and of increasing wages. It also calls for rapidly increasing the production of consumer goods, the real incomes of the population, commodity turnover, the volume of consumer services, and other indexes characterizing the social aspect of the plan.

It is to be emphasized, Comrade V. V. Shcherebitskiy continued, that the fulfillment of the 1984 plan will enable the republic, in accomplishing many other tasks, and to attain the level provided for by the 5-year plan.

At the same time, the rates planned for raising industrial and agricultural production, as well as labor productivity in industry and agriculture, still fail to ensure that these tasks are fully accomplished. In a number of items, the gap is comparatively small, and we must do our best to significantly reduce it in the current year and to reach the 5-year level in 1985.

IN THIS RESPECT, IT IS HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO ACCOMPLISH THE TASK SET BY COMRADE YU. V. ANDROPOV -- TO RAISE LABOR PRODUCTIVITY 1 PERCENT IN EXCESS OF THE PLAN AND TO REDUCE PRODUCTION COSTS BY AN ADDITIONAL 0.5 PERCENT.

The calculations show that this will enable the republic as a whole to increase its industrial production by an additional value of R1.1 to R1.2 billion and to bring the pace of increasing labor productivity to 4.1 percent, compared to the 4 percent called for under the 5-year plan. Labor productivity will rise 3.7 percent, compared with the 3.4 percent under the 5-year plan.

AT THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM, IT WAS EMPHASIZED THAT THE ABILITY OF ECONOMIC LEADERS AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS TO MOBILIZE PEOPLE AND TO ATTAIN HIGH FINAL RESULTS WOULD HAVE TO BE EVALUATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WAY THEY ACCOMPLISH THIS TASK.

The republic's communists and working people have received this task added by the party to the plan with deep understanding and high responsibility. Evidence of this is the vigorous support to the socialist pledges assumed by the labor collectives of Kiev city, Donetsk and other oblasts, by many enterprises and cities, and approved by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

It is extremely important now to make this movement as concrete and purposeful as possible. Each oblast, city and rayon, each labor collective must have a careful look, taking into account its real possibilities, what and how much can and must be done to exceed the plan for increasing labor productivity and for reducing production costs. WE MUST PROCEED FROM THE POINT THAT THIS IS A PRIORITY TASK FOR THE FOURTH YEAR OF THE 5-YEAR PERIOD. Its accomplishment will also help overcome the "bottlenecks" existing in the plan and involving, above all, the supplies of raw materials, technical and labor resources for the needs of production and capital construction. We must make persistent use of additional reserves and of every opportunity not only to fulfill the plan, but to overfulfill it, and must make no allowances for the difficulties which still exist and which cannot be ruled out in the future.

While doing this, we must proceed from the CPSU Central Committee plenum directive that, UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, SHARPLY AGGRAVATED THROUGH THE FAULT OF IMPERIALIST CIRCLES, EACH SOVIET MAN, EACH LABOR COLLECTIVE IS NOT ONLY OBLIGATED, BUT ALSO HAS THE PATRIOTIC DUTY TO FULFILL THE STATE PLAN WITHOUT FAIL, AND TO WORK CONSCIENTIOUSLY AND IN A HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE WAY.

The republic's 1984 budget calls for measures for further developing the economy and for raising the living standards of the people, provided that the plans for production and returns are fulfilled, that additional financial resources are mobilized, and that losses and unproductive outlays are curtailed.

Let Us Make Full Use of the Republic's Production and Scientific-Technical Potential to Accomplish Key Socioeconomic Tasks

While defining the main levers that must be used to fulfill the 1984 plan, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy continued, the CPSU Central Committee plenum laid particular emphasis on questions concerning increased economic efficiency and improved management standards.

The plenum examined all crucial issues brought forward at the present stage of our social development in their unity and interconnection, because it proceeded from the need for their comprehensive settlement. The practice shows that precisely this approach ensures that the possibilities inherent in our socialist system are put into effect.

THE RATIONAL UTILIZATION OF THE PRODUCTION POTENTIAL CREATED IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY IS ONE OF THE DECISIVE FACTORS IN ACCOMPLISHING THE TASKS SET. However, some enterprises and associations are underestimating this important question. The incomplete use of capacities accounts for significant losses in industrial production.

The Ukraine's Central Statistical Administration has found out that some production capacities recently put into operation are late in attaining their planned indexes. In ferrous metallurgy, the coal, light, food, meat and dairy industries their number is the largest.

At some enterprises, the machine shift factor is declining. The CPSU Central Committee plenum rightfully criticized the Khartov Tractor Plant for this.

Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy also rigorously criticized the heavy machine building plant in Zhdanov, the machine building plant in Starokramatorsk, the Bolshevik Plant in Kiev, the hydraulic construction tools plant in Kharkov, and the machine tools plant in Melitopol for the insufficient use of equipment. Enterprise leaders and party organizations must take real care of this state of affairs.

In ferrous metallurgy, blast and open-hearth furnaces and rolling mills are standing idle much longer than scheduled. The use of furnaces has deteriorated at a number of coke chemical plants, and that of ore transportation equipment at ore mining and concentration combines.

Equipment standing idle is also significant in construction.

The difficulties occurring in material-technical supplies alone are not accountable for the fact that the Lutsk Silk Combine is ultilizing its capacities only 85 percent, while the Cherkassy Silk Combine is utilizing them 96.5 percent, or that the Zhitomir Flax Combine is obtaining 10-15 percent less fabric from its modern looms and spinning machines than its counterpart in Rovno.

What has a negative impact on the use of production capacities are errors committed by ministries, planning bodies, and oblispolkoms in the distribution of new industrial enterprises. They frequently do not take into account the chances to supply these enterprises with raw materials, electricity, and cadres, and fail to settle transportation and other problems.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum has demanded that ministries, planning and supply organizations outline the soonest possible measures to eliminate disproportions and irregularities that reduce the efficiency of the production potential. The republic's Gosplan must constantly see to it that ministries do this job.

Serious grievances must also be presented today against leaders of many branch ministries and planning institutes whose choice of optimal technological schemes for new enterprises occasionally proves to be poorly substantiated. The plans are frequently based on outdated technologies and equipment, and the costs of projects are being artificially understated.

The Ukrainian State Institute for the Design and Planning of Food Industry Enterprises was criticized in the report for the defects in the plans for the reconstruction of the Kiev Macaroni Factory and the Zaporozhye No 5 Bakery. A mention was also made of the understated initial costs of planning and building the mine named after the 60th anniversary of the USSR at the Sverdlov Anthracite Amalgamation.

Ministerial and departmental leaders, as well as Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman must very closely examine and improve the work of branch planning and technological institutes that largely determine the technical level and, consequently, also the efficiency of new and constructed production units.

WE MUST RENEW ON A MODERN ORGANIZATIONAL AND TECHNICAL BASE THE MOVEMENT FOR RAISING THE EQUIPMENT SHIFT FACTOR, AND MUST MAKE FULL USE OF THE POSITIVE EXPERIENCE EXISTING IN THIS FIELD, PARTICULARLY THE PRACTICE OF ONE-PERSON MANNING SEVERAL MACHINE TOOLS.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum and the press highly assessed the work performed by the Dnepropetrovsk Combine Plant Collective. Important in the long run also are the measures taken by the Kiev Tractor Space Parts Amalgamation, the Ternopol Vatra Amalgamation, the Dnepropetrovsk Electric Locomotive Plant, and by other enterprises to develop and to widely apply automated technological complexes and flexible (readjustable) automated production units and technologies.

It is important for all enterprises to follow the example of the good, creative work that can be found in every branch.

Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized that the SUCCESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE 1984 PLAN DECISIVELY DEPENDS ON THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE TASKS FIXED FOR SAVING ALL KINDS OF RESOURCES. Unfortunately, mismanagement and wastefulness are still common. Ferrous metallurgical enterprises have exceeded the ceiling for the use of coke and iron ore, while coal mines have exceeded that for the use of timber; the latter also lost a significant amount of wedge-type hydraulic, and other props. Notwithstanding the improved structure of fuel, thermoelectric power stations have overspent fuel. Substantial losses of fuel are being incurred each year because it is poorly stored, and gasoline stations are inadequately mechanized. Much fuel is being wasted in runs without cargo. Yet ministerial leaders, primarily Comrade F. P. Golovchenko, do not seem to be really concerned about this.

The matters of fuel consumption in other branches are hardly any better. For example, the Ukrainian Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry under Comrade A. T. Shevchenko and the Ministry of Industrial Construction under Comrade A. N. Shchepetilnikov are falling short of the plan for saving gasoline, and the Ukrainian Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy of that for saving diesel fuel. This work has been poorly organized in the Ukrainian Main Administration for the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, in the Ukrainian Ministry of Local Industry, in Odessa, Chernovtsy, and Sumy Oblasts. This wastefulness and irresponsibility in handling the matter at hand must not be tolerated any longer.

Recently, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a decision aimed at intensifying the policy of economizing in the consumption of liquid fuel and at eliminating book doctoring practices. It is highly important to comply with this without fail.

The fulfillment of the 1984 plan also largely depends on the way LABOR RESOURCES are used.

Notwithstanding the fact that a number of new facilities will be put into operation the plan does not call for increasing the number of personnel engaged in the national economy. This is why it is highly topical to further foster labor discipline, improve production and labor organization, apply collective contracting, reduce the losses of worktime, sharply raise labor productivity, and on this basis free the labor force now engaged in the existing production units.

Administrative bodies, ministries, and departments must invigorate their work to engage pensioners in socially useful labor, to encourage part-time jobs at home and other forms of engaging housewives and other groups of the population in communal production. Observing attention is the experience of Zakarpatskaya, Lvov, Ivano-Frankovsk and other oblasts employing farm laborers in inter-season time at the subsidiary farms of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, including at those organized in cooperation with industrial enterprises. The annual production obtained in this way is already estimated at R1.5 billion.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum noted the need for a wide movement for attaining as soon as possible the targets planned for labor consumption. Here are the facts attesting to the importance of this task. The Kiev motorcycle plant is exceeding the plan for labor consumption in the production of its basic production items by 15 percent, while the car building plants in Stakhanov and Dnepropetrovsk are exceeding the ceiling 30-70 percent. The calculations show that if the aforesaid enterprises abided by the plan for labor consumption in their production, they would have been able to free 650 workers or to produce additionally about 3,000 cars and 14,000 motorcycles.

This is the way one must not use labor resources, and the appropriate party organs, along with the enterprise leaders, must more purposefully handle these matters.

NO MATTER WHAT TASKS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WE ARE ACCOMPLISHING -- THE CURRENT OR THE LONG-TERM ONES -- THE QUESTION OF ACCELERATING SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PROGRESS REMAINS THE CRUCIAL ONE, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy continued.

The 1984 plan is the first one to rank tasks for developing science and technology among the basic indexes which are used to evaluate the activity of amalgamations and enterprises. Compared with 1983, the number of tasks for applying waste-free technologies will increase 2.5 times, and that for applying resource and energy-saving technologies 1.5 times. The plan additionally calls for recycling production waste.

Tasks provided under the 1984 plan for putting into production new items and for improving production quality, for putting into operation comprehensively mechanized and automated enterprises, shops and sectors, and for the relative reduction of the personnel through raising the technical standards of production have exceeded the 5-year targets.

To cope with these tasks, enterprise collectives, scientific research and planning organizations, as well as engineering and technical cadres must work intensively.

There are issues which call for more attention on the part of the Presidium of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, and above all for the accelerated development of cybernetics, geology, biotechnology, as well as of fundamental research in the field of microelectronics, the physics of high pressure and extra low temperatures, and bioorganic chemistry.

Significant scientific forces have been concentrated in scientific research institutes and higher educational establishments. Unfortunately, some collectives do not produce the expected returns on schedule.

Many papers completed by branch institutes, which cost much money, lacked even estimates of the expected effects. The state of affairs in a number of higher educational establishments is hardly any better.

As is known, tasks for scientific-technical progress were closely examined at a plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo has approved a concrete plan for organizing the implementation of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decision on measures for accelerating scientific-technical progress in the national economy. These problems were also discussed at a number of obkom and gorkom plenums, party aktiv meetings, and ministerial and departmental board sessions. A council for promoting scientific-technical progress has been set up under the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. A definite system is emerging for this work in the field.

While bearing in mind the tasks set by the December 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, we must continue to improve control over scientific-technical progress, and must concentrate our main attention on raising the effectiveness of research and on speeding up the application of its results in production. In particular, we must invigorate the compilation of comprehensive special purpose programs for the 12th 5-year period.

The 1984 plan has made provisions for an extensive CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. This program for the republic's contracting ministries will rise 5-9 percent. New power blocks are to be put into operation at the Zaporozhye and the South Ukrainian Atomic Power Stations, and a number of large capacities are to be commissioned for the production of mineral fertilizers and other goods. Constant control must be maintained over the construction of facilities for the agro-industrial complex.

While improving the organization of capital construction, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy said, we must overcome at last the deep-rooted practice of commissioning most capacities, houses, and facilities for cultural and social purposes at the end of the year. This practice brings about a production spurt and results in substandard work. It has also been repeatedly noted that the plans included many projects not provided on schedule with technical documents and equipment. Particularly abusive in this respect are the Ukrainian Ministries of Ferrous Metallurgy and of the Coal Industry. Unfortunately, the posture taken by the republic's office of the USSR Construction Bank toward these issues has not always been firm and principled.

For a number of regions, the construction program will increase significantly. This applies in particular to Kiev, Kirovograd, Lvov, Kharkov, and Chernigov Oblasts. Ministries and oblispolkoms must see to it without delay that contracting organization are strengthened and capable of fulfilling the fixed plans.

We must continue to concentrate forces and resources on important projects, and must efficiently organize socialist competitions for commissioning facilities ahead of schedule and for attaining as soon as possible their planned capacities.

Additional measures are needed to improve the WORK OF TRANSPORTATION. Although the 1983 plan was fulfilled, and although more freight was transported by railroads than in 1982, the national economic needs in transportation have not been fully met.

The state of affairs has been complicated by the fact that the plans for transported items are not being fully implemented, and the volume of operations performed by motor transportation has even shrunk.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers (Comrade K. I. Masik), along with leaders of ministries, departments, transportation organizations, and oblispolkoms, must closely analyze once again the state of affairs in transportation. Effective measures are to be taken to reduce the demurrages and empty runs of rolling stock, to eliminate many two-way and superfluous transport operations, to improve the repair and maintenance of locomotives, cars, motor vehicles, boats, railroads and motor roads. The time has also come to concentrate motor transport media in large pools.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum paid much attention to THE INTENSIFIED PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND TO THE RATIONAL USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES. In recent times, a great deal has been done in this respect. It suffices to say that, since the beginning of the current 5-year period, the republic's outlays on nature-protecting measures have come close to R1 billion in state capital investments, excluding sums spend on land amelioration. However, this problem of great economic and social importance continues to be topical.

Naturally enough, not everything can be done overnight. But what has been undertaken and what has been assigned funds, must be put into effect without fail. However, this is not a common practice. And frequently no one is being taken to task for this. It has been proved that, in some cities, the Ukrainian Ministries of Ferrous Metallurgy, of Power and Electrification, and of the Construction Materials Industry are failing to fully comply with the decision of the republic's Council of Ministers on measures for protecting the air against pollution. This also applies to a number of ferrous metallurgical, light industry, food, and coal enterprises which still have not stopped discharging polluted sewage into the Black and Azov Sea basin. A number of cities are building purifying facilities in an unsatisfactory way, allocated funds are not being used, the reclamation of exhausted lands in need of regeneration is progressing slowly, and the chances offered by science are being used poorly, although the republic has good experience in this respect.

In 1979, on the initiative of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences Presidium, the academy concluded an agreement with Dnepropetrovsk City enterprises and organizations on cooperation in protecting nature. The implementation of the comprehensive plan which was worked out has made it possible to significantly reduce the discharges of industrial waste into the water basin and the air, and to improve the environment.

Unfortunately, some administrative and party ogans in the field have taken a passive position toward this important issue. The organizing role of the republic's Gosplan and State Committee for the Protection of Nature has still been inadequate. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo feels that these issues must be specially examined by the republic's government.

The speaker then pointed out that issues concerning the implementation of the 5-YEAR SOCIAL PROGRAM were in the center of the entire practical activity of the CPSU Central Committee and legal party organs.

In the complex of tasks for raising the people's living standards, the December CPSU Central Committee Plenum singled out and brought to the forefront the following: to implement the Food Program, to make better use of the potential build up in agriculture, and to increase returns from allocations for the development of the agro-industrial complex.

It is well known, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy said, that the past years of the 5-year period were very complex for our republic's AGRICULTURE. For this reason we must exert all our efforts -- one -- to reduce to a minimum and, wherever it is possible, to eliminate the arrears which have emerged, and -- two -- to ensure at any price an increase in the output and procurements of produce in comparison with the 10th 5-year period.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo has outlined a number of pressing measures to accomplish this task. The point is, above all, to ensure that crops are more stable, and to carry out a comprehensive program for raising grain production. We must clearly determine at every level -- at each farm, in every rayon and oblast -- what is to be done concretely, with an allowance for local conditions, to ensure that the gross output of grain planned for 1984 is produced.

Expanding the areas of corn cultivation and the application of industrial technology in corn raising make up AN IMPORTANT RESERVE. The per-hectare corn yields averaged 30 quintals even under the conditions of the last droughty summer; this was almost one-third more than -- and in Western oblasts more than twice as much as -- the yields of the other grain crops. Industrial technology helped produce an average per-hectare yield of 36 quintals of corn, and in Volyn Oblast 87 quintals, in Chernovtsy and Rovno Oblasts 61-63 quintals, and in the Crimean, Ivano-Frankovsk, Zakarpatskaya, and Lvov Oblasts 52-56 quintals.

POINT TWO. We must significantly raise yields from ameliorated lands in the republic, which now total 5 million hectares. At many farms, yields from these lands are small and are significantly below the planned target. It is particularly important to eliminate anonymity in tilling ameliorated lands, and to widely apply collective contracting.

POINT THREE. The utmost is to be done to consolidate the positive changes which have taken place in stockbreeding, and to intensify this branch with more insistence.

What unused reserves there still are in this field, one can see in the following example. In Kharkov Oblast, the 1983 plans for procuring stockbreeding produce were fulfilled and cattle productivity rose. But, in one-fifth of the oblast farms, the per-cow milk yields fell below the 2,000-kilogram mark. The production of meat per cow and hog in the oblast as a whole fell one-third short of the norm, but the amount of feed used to gain 1 quintal in weight exceeded the norm 50 percent. Each fifth cow and each fourth ewe did not litter. Similar data are also characteristic of some other oblasts.

MOREOVER, we must significantly intensify sociocultural construction in the countryside, and must provide appropriate working and living conditions for the rural toilers. The comprehensive handling of these issues in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast provides convincing evidence that it is possible not only to stop the outflow of the population, but also to appreciably increase labor resources in the countryside. In Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, housing space put into service in recent years per 1,000 rural inhabitants was equal to that in the cities. The volumes of road construction and the number of dwellings supplied with gas increased 50 percent compared with the 10th 5-year period. But Vinnitsa, Poltava, Chernigov, and Khmelnitskiy Oblasts, which experience more acute shortages of cadres at kolkhozes and sovkhozes, are slow in carrying out this work.

AND ONE MORE POINT. We must raise by all means the level of leadership in agricultural production, must resolutely nip in the bud the manifestations of departmental narrow-mindedness, of mere administering, must put an end to practices restraining farm managers, specialists and labor collectives in their initiatives.
In this respect, agro-industrial amalgamation councils must prove themselves at full size. Their task is to concentrate on the application of scientifically-substantiated farming systems, on the settlement of problems vital for stockbreeding, and on the consolidation of the kolkhoz and sovkhoz economy.

Following the May 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, economic conditions in the countryside changed for the better. According to preliminary data, the net incomes obtained by the republic's kolkhozes in 1983 totaled R2.4 billion, or 2.8 times more than in 1982, and their profitability exceeded 18 percent. The number of unprofitable farms fell by 75 percent, but there are still many unprofitable farms. It is to be noted that about a half of these kolkhozes and sovkhozes are located in Kirovograd, Odessa, and Nikolayev Oblasts.

Agricultural ministries, departments, oblast and rayon agro-industrial amalgamations must immediately, without waiting for the year's results, have a careful look at each unprofitable and unproductive farm, must envisage and put into effect concrete measures in order to significantly improve the economic and financial situation of kolkhozes and sovkhozes in 1984

Attention must also be paid to the following issue. In accordance with a selective check, many of our well-known and economically strong kolkhozes and sovkhozes have slowed down the pace of increasing production in recent years. Their plans and socialist pledges frequently happen to be understated and do not induce the collectives to find and make use of the existing great possibilities. This is another great reserve which is to be put into effect everywhere.

The December 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy pointed out, paid much attention to the accomplishment of the task set by the 26th party congress for a sharp increase in the production and for an improvement in the quality of CONSUMER GOODS in order to meet the market needs in them.

In this respect, there are changes for the better. Commodity output is rising. The quality of goods is improving. The republic's above-plan production of consumer goods totaled R1.2 billion in retail prices. However, the state of this work must not be considered satisfactory. Additional reserves are to be used everywhere to raise the output of goods, to improve their quality, and to expand their selection. The fact that their production at any enterprises is very restricted or even nonexistent must not be accepted as normal.

In the Crimean Oblast, such enterprises amount to half almost the total, and the share of commodity production at the other enterprises does not exceed the value of 10 kopecks per each ruble of the wage fund. In the current 5-year period, the share of consumer goods in the total production of Zaporozhye Oblast heavy industry, machine building, chemical, and other enterprises in the group "A" has even shrunk.

The work performed to accomplish this important economic and social task must be evaluated in the way indicated at the CPSU Central Committee plenum: Instead of speaking about the shortcomings in the production of consumer goods, we must bring to appropriate account definite functionaries responsible for these shortcomings. This applies, above all, to the quality of goods.

The speaker quoted a number of cases in which the consumers claimed replacements for the productions of the republic's enterprises, and the value of production refused by trade organizations at the wholesale fairs runs into significant sums. The Mayak Garment Amalgamation in Lvov, with Comrade V. M. Namazilo as director and Comrade R. I. Tsapenko as party organization secretary, was rigorously criticized for its substandard production. This enterprise was inspected by Comrade O. Ya. Kasyanenko, minister, and by his deputies, but the state of affairs is improving very slowly.

Certainly, the time has come to use power and to give a good shake-up to functionaries responsible for such shortcomings.

The sphere of services is developing poorly, too. But this fact does not concern very much the leaders of the Ukrainian Ministry of Consumer Services (Comrade V. I. Slinchenko), and many oblispolkoms.

As you know, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy said, THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM FOUND IT AS NECESSARY TO WORK OUT A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPING THE PRODUCTION OF CONSUMER GOODS AND THE SPHERE OF SERVICES, ENCOMPASSING ALL ASPECTS OF THE SOVIET PEOPLE'S LIVES, IN THE PERIOD UP TO 1990 AND LONGER. This is a highly responsible task, and the republic is called upon to contribute its share in its accomplishment. Among social tasks on which attention should be concentrated, there is one which is the most prominent: to fulfill the plans for the construction of houses, children's preschool establishments, vocational and general education schools, hospitals and polyclinics.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum emphasized that, while accomplishing the current task, we must not slacken our attention to strategic problems concerning national economic development. It is highly important to note that the plenum demanded a comprehensive approach toward the process of improving the planning and economic management system, the style and methods of socialist management. This is the only approach enabling us to determine the most effective lines for developing the national economy, and the main links allowing the country's economy to hasten its advance along the path of intensive development.

THE IDEAS EXPRESSED IN THIS RESPECT BY COMRADE YU. V. ANDROPOV ARE OF PROGRAMMATIC IMPORTANCE. I think, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy said, I will voice the general opinion by saying that THE PLENUM OF THE UKRAINIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE FULLY ENDORSES THESE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GENERAL SECRETARY. Their implementation will undoubtedly play a great role in accomplishing the topical socioeconomic tasks, and in improving our entire social system.

In this respect, it is highly important to put into effect in a number of branches an ECONOMIC EXPERIMENT in increasing the rights of enterprises and in raising their responsibility for the results of their work. The experiment will test some new elements in management. Fully changing over to this experiment in the republic are the Ministry of the Food Industry, as well as enterprises run by the USSR Ministries of Heavy Machine Building and of the Electric Equipment Industry. The performance of this important experiment directed at enterprises must be constantly kept in the field of vision by obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms.

Naturally enough, THE WORK FOR IMPROVING MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING, AND FOR RAISING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE MANAGEMENT APPARATUS, IS TO BE CARRIED OUT CONSTANTLY.

THE POINT OF DEPARTURE IN THIS RESPECT IS Comrade YU. V. ANDROPOV'S DIRECTIVE THAT THE STRUGGLE FOR RAISING DISCIPLINE, GOOD ORGANIZATION, AND RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD BE BASED ON A TECHNICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY SUBSTANTIATED PLAN FOR WHICH A RIGOROUS ACCOUNT SHOULD BE DEMANDED. This is the exact point at which good order begins.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum found it necessary to take additional steps in order to improve the quality of planning, to ensure that the plans are more stable, feasible, and better substantiated, and to boost discipline, particularly that involving supplies.

More energy is to be applied to reduce the administrative and management apparatus and the costs of its maintenance. In this respect, no due initiative has been shown on the part of ministers, Council of Ministers deputy chairmen, the republic's Gosplan, Ministry of Finance, and even of depatments and secretaries of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

Every one pretends to be in favor of improving the structure of management and of cutting administrative and management expenses. But when the matter comes to concrete decisions, many comrades prove to lack the resoluteness, and occasionally even the willingness, to approach the issue in a way befitting a communist, to handle it from a nationwide, and not from a narrow departmental position.

In the interests of the state, we must resolutely change our attitude toward this issue, must raise the responsibility of the government and of leaders of all administrative and economic bodies for the pursuit of the policy of economizing, for the accurate and efficient performance of the management apparatus.

Let Us Raise the Level of Organizational and Political Work To Fulfill the 1984 Plan

The success in any issue, and particularly when the point is to accomplish qualitatively new and more complex tasks, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy said, has always decisively depended on the ability of party organizations to mobilize the communists and all working people, to inspire them with lofty goals, and to organize daily practical work. THE DEMAND, AS TOPICAL FOR THE COMMUNISTS TODAY AS EVER, IS: TO PURSUE THE PARTY LINE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AND IN ANY SITUATION. Comrade Yu. V. Andropov reminded CPSU Central Committee members and all the plenum participants of our lofty role and responsibility before the party and the people for the implementation of decisions adopted collectively. These decisions and new tasks call for further improvements in the style and methods of party guidance, in the selection and distribution of cadres, in the education of authentic organizers for production, and in the well-timed appointment of resourceful and talented persons to crucial -- and particularly lagging -- sectors.

THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM NOTED THE NEED TO BETTER COMBINE THE BENEVOLENT ATTITUDE TOWARD CADRES, WHICH HAS BEEN DEEPLY ROOTED IN THE PARTY, WITH EXACTINGNESS AND COHESION TO PRINCIPLE. IN EVALUATING PEOPLE AND THEIR WORK, WE SHOULD ALWAYS BE GUIDED BY THE INTERESTS OF THE STATE, OF SOCIETY, AND OF OUR CAUSE.

In connection with this, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat and departments, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms. The Ukrainian Council of Ministers Presidium; and ministerial and departmental leaders must have a careful look at the composition of leading cadres, and must reinforce sectors in need with more energetic and well prepared functionaries capable of successfully accomplishing the tasks set for them.

In recent times, leading posts have been manned with quite a few new functionaries. During the accountability and election campaign, about 80 raykom and gorkom first secretaries and 20 percent of basic party organization secretaries were elected for the first time. Some of them are not sufficiently experienced. This is why we must organize without delay an expedient training for these comrades. In March, the Central Committee intends to arrange a special seminar for gorkom and raykom first secretaries in the Higher Party School under the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

We must have another look at the work of courses, departments, and institutes for the improvement of qualifications, which refresh annually more than 500,000 leading functionaries and specialists for the national economy. Outlays for these purposes are great. But returns produced by the training are not always adequate.

Some administrative cadres, particularly leaders in the medium brackets, as well as party functionaries have insufficient ideas about things such as costs, profitability, and returns, do not even know the targets set by the plans, the budget, and socialist pledges, and are unable to profoundly scrutinize the situation and to draw correct conclusions for pratical work. But without that it is impossible today to adopt competent and well-substantiated administrative decisions, or to organize work in a real way.

In its decision on the report made by the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee, the CPSU Central Committee noted the need to boost among cadres such qualities as initiative, efficiency, the ability to overcome difficulties and to persistently pursue the party line, the ability to evaluate the results of one's own work in an objective and self-critical manner, and to take an irreconcilable and uncompromising attitude toward shortcomings and offenses.

The style of work was rigorously aired at many accountability and election meetings and conferences in the republic. Serious grievances were raised against the Gosplan, some ministries, and departments for the shortcomings incurred in the planning and control of branches, for the frequent failures to take the efficient steps necessary to settle problems which were within their competence and which were determinant for the fulfillment of the plans and for the steady work of enterprises and organizations under their control.

Party committees, and ministerial and departmental leaders are expected to draw from the aforesaid CPSU Central Committee decision and from the criticism serious and correct conclusions.

While proceeding from the analysis of its own work, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has approved a plan for implementing the directives and recommendations set forth in the CPSU Central Committee decision on the report made by the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee. Appropriate measures are to be taken by all party committees, basic party organizations, administrative, economic, trade union, and Komsomol bodies.

Responsible tasks are confronting the functionaries of the IDEOLOGICAL FRONT. All media of oral and printed propaganda are to be used to explain the plenum decisions, the evaluations and conclusions set forth in Comrade Yu. V. Andropov's speech. The communists and all working people are expected to make full use of their mobilizing strength.

Naturally enough, the entire ideological work is to be combined with preparations for the election to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Under the present conditions, it is particularly important to shape among our people a correct comprehension of the party's economic policy, of the peculiarities of our society at the present stage of development.

In doing this, we must proceed from the point that last year, unfortunately, did not bring a relaxation in the international tension. Moreover, through the fault of the United States and its allies, the situation has been aggravated even more. The nuclear missile arms race in unprecedentedly large proportions, the crude interference in the domestic affairs of other states, and the acts of ideological and economic subversion -- this is what characterizes the foreign policy pursued by the U.S. Administration.

The international situation requires from us all, from all Soviet people high political and military vigilance, self-control, good organization, and constant concern for the consolidation of the economic and defense potential of the country.

WHILE KEEPING THIS POINT IN MIND, THE FOREMOST DUTY OF LEADING AND PROPAGANDA CADRES IS TO MOBILIZE PEOPLE FOR ACCOMPLISHING THE TASKS SET BY THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM, AND TO SUPPORT PATRIOTIC INITIATIVES IN A BUSINESS-LIKE AND WELL-TIMED MANNER.

We must, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy said, banish from this exciting issue inflated phrases, hue and cry, formalism, must competently show what is the way to attain high end results. We have excellent samples of precisely such efficient and creative work. We possess an enormous army of front-ranking workers and production innovators. The republic's 13 labor collectives, the cities of Sevastopol, Kharkov, Rovno, and Belaya Tserkov were distinguished with high state awards last year alone. In recognition of the labor services, orders and medals were awarded to 1,800 persons, and 10 of them were distinguished with the titles of Hero of Socialist Labor. More than 70 received the Lenin and the USSR state prizes. More than 4,000 persons and 45 labor collectives received the Ukrainian SSR state awards.

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO MAKE FULL USE OF THE EXAMPLE SET BY FRONT-RANKING LABORERS AND THE BEST COLLECTIVES TO FURTHER ENHANCE THE PATRIOTIC INITIATIVE OF THE MASSES.

At the end Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy said: The decisions of the December CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the preparations for the election to the USSR Supreme Soviet have brought about a new surge in political and labor activity among the workers, kolkhoz peasants, and intelligentsia. WITH THEIR CONCRETE DEEDS, OUR PEOPLE ARE MANIFESTING THEIR UNYIELDING ASPIRATION AND RESOLUTION TO DO THE UTMOST TO REDOUBLE THEIR SHARE IN STRENGTHENING THE POWER OF OUR MULTINATIONAL SOCIALIST MOTHERLAND. This gives the guarantee that the plans traced by the party will be successfully fulfilled.

Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy delivered a concluding speech. WE ALL ARE UNANIMOUS IN THE OPINION, HE SAID, THAT THE DECISIONS OF THE DECEMBER 1983 CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM, AS WELL AS THE EVALUATIONS, CONCLUSIONS, AND TASKS SET FORTH IN COMRADE YU. V. ANDROPOV'S SPEECH MUST BE LAID IN THE GROUNDWORK OF OUR ACTIVITY AT EVERY LEVEL. EVERY ONE WILL EVALUATE THE QUALITY OF THIS ACTIVITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE END RESULTS.

The criticism voiced at this plenum was business-like and fair. The proposals and remarks made will be taken into consideration. The Central Committee will see to it.

At the end I consider it necessary to refer to some tasks, most topical for our republic and requiring constant attention.

POINT ONE. Every one must be well aware and must constantly bear in mind that we only will be able to intensify our economy, to rapidly develop it, and to raise efficiency on the basis of accelerating scientific and technical progress. The scope and timing of application are what matters most in this respect.

New and advanced things are being frequently applied too slowly. We must combine forces to remedy this situation. Party organs must enhance this issue, and must bring to rigorous account those directly culpable of slowness, inertness, and conservatism. And the hopeless laggards who are afraid of everything that is new, who are unable to reform, must be removed from the posts they hold.

POINT TWO. One should be reminded once again that the fulfillment of the rigorous plans for 1984 and the successive year may be jeopardized unless we constantly attend to problems concerning the rational and most effective utilization of labor, material-technical, fuel, power, and financial resources.

The facts show that some cadres have still not been imbued with the comprehension of this reality, and behave in such a way as if we superabounded in everything and did not know what to do with our oil, coal, metals, construction materials, and so forth. The psychology of such leaders must be resolutely reformed.

The same can be applied to the budget. Its allocations must be used more sparingly, and more pains must be taken to increase its revenues.

POINT THREE. Analytical work has to improve along all lines. Without a systematic profound, and objective analysis, and without a comprehensive approach, good leadership is impossible.

Unfortunately, we frequently lack precisely such purposeful, competent, and comprehensive analysis. This has been stated more than once. Unfortunately, the Central Statistical Administration, the Gosplan, and other republic and oblast-level organizations poorly cope with this task.

ONE MORE CONCLUSION is to be drawn from the discussion at the plenum: We must be more persistent in improving the style and methods of work.

OUR MAIN ATTENTION AND ALL EFFORTS MUST BE CONCENTRATED ON THE BRISK ORGANIZATIONAL WORK DIRECTLY IN LABOR COLLECTIVES, AND ON ASSISTANCE TO THEM.

Proper order must be brought about at last, Comrade V. V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized, in the organization of control, and its business-like coordination is to be ensured. The People's Control Committee, the republic's Ministry of Finance, and the Central Committee departments have still not done the utmost for this purpose.

Each controller, or each appropriate commission, as a rule, must give account of what he or it has done concretely to eliminate the shortcomings revealed, and what assistance he or it has given.

It is undoubtedly important to strengthen the principle of authentic collectivism in work. All Central Committee members are expected to display more initiative and activity both in the field and at Central Committee plenums. Each of us must draw conclusions from what Yu. V. Andropov stated in his speech about the responsibility of CPSU Central Committee members.

AND ONE MORE POINT: New tasks call for more persistent and, one can say, more modern agitation and propaganda work. We must persuade and mobilize people not only and not so much by words, as by facts that objectively show our achievements and shortcomings along with the ways of eliminating them. For this purpose, party organization secretaries and our ideological aktivists must be supplied with detailed information, with concrete figures, arguments, facts, and local data.

Naturally enough, all major issues discussed at this plenum should be reflected in the proceedings of oblast party conferences and in our daily work.

The accountability and election campaign has shown that we had some raykoms, gorkoms, and quite a few basic party organizations that still were working poorly, and their their matters were improving slowly. Party obkoms must keep an eye on these organizations, must assist them, and must keep them under their particular control until the situation there improves and develops as rapidly as it is expected to.

In the nearest future, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy said, we have in store a number of important political undertakings which coincide in time: oblast party conferences whose first round took place on 7 January; discussions on the results of the CPSU Central Committee plenum in rayon, city, and basic party organizations, and the adoption of socialist pledges for the current year; a large series of organizational and propaganda measures in connection with the forthcoming election to the USSR Supreme Soviet; and discussions on the CPSU Central Committee draft school reform, which are to be held in January and February in all labor collectives, in the wide circles of teachers and parents, as well as in the press.

This entire wprk must be planned carefully and carried out in such a way so as to make full use of the aforesaid measures to further raise the political and labor activity of the masses.

Members of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, party aktivists, and all the republic's communists will undoubtedly do their best to hasten the accomplishment of the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress and the December 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

BRIEFS

KAZAKHSTAN POPULATION -- One of the Central newspapers in Kazakh SSR has published interesting details on population increases in Kazakh SSR. During the past 25 years, the population of Kazakhstan increased more than 1.5 times. The Uighur and (Dungan) peoples, who live in the southeastern sector of Kazakh SSR, have also increased in population. The Uighur people doubled in population during the past 25 years. As for the (Dungan) people they nearly doubled their number as well. [Text] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 9 Jan 84 GF]

UZBEK MEDICAL SERVICES -- Uzbekistan attaches great importance to health services. The Uzbek SSR will be spending nearly 60 million tanga for the construction of hospitals and clinics throughout the country during the current year. This figure is about 10 million tanga more than that spent for the same purpose in 1983. [Summary] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 12 Jan 84 GF]

COSMOS 1500 HELPED FREE ICE-TRAPPED SHIPS

LD231152 Moscow TASS in English 1136 GMT 23 Jan 84

[Text] Kiev January 23 TASS -- A series of unique photos has been beamed to the earth by the Soviet artificial satellite "Cosmos-1,500". They were made with the help of a lateral-observation radar unit which was installed for the first time on an oceanological satellite. This equipment developed by Ukrainian scientists ensures high-quality photographing at any time of the day and in any weather.

Yuriy Terekhin, head of the department of remote studies of the marine Hydrophysical Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukraine, told TASS that the satellite supplied with valuable information 53 research stations in various parts of the Soviet Union. The data supplied late last year about the situation in the eastern sector of the Arctic show the great practical value of the information beamed by "Cosmos-1,500". Dozens of ships were trapped by the ice there at that time. The apparatuses installed on the satellite conducted, on the order of scientists, the sounding of the ice cover and helped find ice-free areas in the vast ice fields. This made it possible to draw optimum routs for the rescue icebreakers and for the rescued ships.

Yuriy Terekhin pointed out that good technical characteristics of the space laboratory made it possible to conduct comprehensive study of vast areas of the world ocean. The photos obtained from the satellite clearly outline the boundaries of intensive ocean currents. The observations carried out from "Cosmos-1,500" are especially valuable for understanding the processes of interrelation between the world ocean and the atmosphere, which is very important for the formation of the weather.

COSMOS 1532 SATELLITE LAUNCHED ON 13 JANUARY

LD140943 Moscow TASS in English 0930 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- The USSR launched another satellite in its Cosmos series on January 13.

Cosmos-1532, carrying scientific equipment to continue space exploration, was inserted in an orbiting path with the following parametres:

Initial period of revolution -- 89.8 minutes,
Maximum distance from earth -- 382 kilometres,
Minimum distance -- 178 km,
Inclination of the orbit -- 67.2 degrees

The Satellite's on-board equipment is functioning normally.

PLANS FOR SPACE STUDY OF HALLEY'S COMET NOTED

LD191329 Moscow TASS in English 1312 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- Preparation for a unique space experiment connected with the study of planet Venus and the famous Halley's Comet is going on.

The testing of sets of scientific instrumentation which will be installed on two Soviet automatic stations is nearing completion, a TASS correspondent has been told in the space research institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The stations are to be launched in the middle of December this year with a week-long interval between the launchings.

The international project got its name from the combination of the words "Venus" and "Halley", explained Vyacheslav Balebanov, deputy director of the institute. The success of the entire mission depends ultimately on how thoroughly the most elaborate instruments created by the scientists of the countries participating in the project will be prepared for the flight. The present generation of scientists has got the rarest opportunity: to study by means of spacecraft Halley's Comet which returns to the sun from deep space once in 76 years.

The path to the comet will be blazed by the two Soviet stations. In June 1985 they are to near Venus and land two descent vehicles on its surface to carry out physico-chemical research of the atmosphere and surface of Venus. The fly-by modules of the stations wil surge farther ahead to meet the comet. At the beginning of March 1986, after almost 440 days after launching, history's first rendez-vous of man-made craft with the comet will take place. The craft will pass the cometary nucleus at a distance of about 10,000 kilometres at a relative speed of 280 km per second.

The scientists said that provision is made for several sessions of switching on the station's instrumentation at different distances from the comet.

It is planned to determine physical and chemical characteristics of the cometary nucleus, the composition of dust particles and their distribution by masses at different distances from the nucleus, and the chemical composition of the gas-and-dust "cap" of the comet. Close-up television pictures of the comet are also to be obtained and transmitted to earth.

Following the Soviet automatic stations, Vyacheslav Balebanov said, space probes "Giotto" (European Sapce Agency) and "Planet A" (Japan) will be launched in 1985. It is supposed that data which the Soviet stations will transmit to earth will help adjust the flight path of "Giotto" so that it will possibly pass the comet at a closer distance.

Taking part in the realisation of the project "Veha" are scientists from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Austria, France, and the FRG.

SOVIET BIOLOGISTS EXPLORE N.W. INDIAN OCEAN

PM2311132 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jan 94 First Edition p 6

[Correspondent N. Bratchkov report: "Scientists Conduct Research"]

[Text] Vladivostok, 18 Jan -- A Far Eastern "floating institute" -- the scientific research ship "Professor Bogorov" -- has begun working in the northwest part of the Indian Ocean.

An expedition of scientists of the Pacific Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry is on board. In addition to the Soviet scientists, scientists from the Seychelles, Tanzania, the Maldives, and Madagascar will also participate in research into the flora and fauna of the southern seas. The program envisages a quest for physiologically active substances in marine organisms -- starfish, sea urchins, mollusks, and corals.

EXPEDITION SHIP REPORTS FROM ANTARCTIC

PM191130 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 84 First Edition p 6

[Special correspondent V. Bardin report from on board the diesel ship "Baykal" under the rubric "News from Expeditions": "Off Antarctic Shores"]

[Text] The "Baykal" entered the waters of Cosmonauts Sea, on whose shores Molodezhnaya Station is located, to the south is Queen Maud Land, familiar to me from past expeditions. It is a region of imposing mountain ranges and huge glaciers. The first explorers of many of them were Soviet people. That is why the names of our explorers, scientists, writers, and cosmonauts are often found on maps of the region.

Here in the mountains, at heights up to 1,500 meters, unusual lakes were found, permanently covered in ice -- a new type of lake found only in the Antarctic. In 1961 I witnessed the building of Novolazarevskaya Station in (Shirmakher) Oasis. Its first Chief was Vladislav Gerbovich. Among those who have wintered at Novolazarevskaya in different years are many old friends and comrades. Candidate of Geographical Sciences Igor Simonov, chief of the Novolazarevskaya 28th Soviet Antarctic Expedition, is now finishing his third winter here. In a recent radio message he reported some of the results of work at the station, among whose collective GDR scientists wintered.

The researchers traveled by all-purpose vehicles across the (Voltat) range -- a region of hidden lakes hardly studied at all before now. A path through the glacial crevasses was found only at the third attempt. The biggest lake, the Unter-See, lies in a depression between mountains. The ice on the lake is some 4 meters thick, and the lake's maximum depth is 147 meters. This makes it one of the deepest lakes presently known in the Antarctic. The water in the lake is fresh water. There is a thin layer of silt on the bottom. The Soviet scientists and GDR scientists carried out comprehensive geological and geographical studies in the region of the mountain lakes. The last members of the 29th Soviet Antarctic Expedition will soon arrive at Novolazarevskaya. The new shift of winter workers is headed by experienced polar expert Vladimir Shirshov. At all the Antarctic stations, work is proceeding according to the programs laid down. Research work has begun at the Druzhnaya Base.

From far off in the south, where a cold sun hung just above the ice, the churring of a helicopter could be heard: The last trip to Molodezhnaya was completed. It takes less than an hour to fly from the shore there to the "Baykal" and the "Mikhail Somov" where they stand among the ice. Beneath you is the sea ice, enmeshed in a dark web of clear pools. In Alashevev bight, where our Antarctic meteorological center was located, the shore ice had not yet broken up. Ships could not get near to the station through the ice, but with the help of helicopters the new shift of polar workers and the essential cargo was successfully delivered. The crews of the two Mi8's stationed on the "Somov" -- helicopter unit commander Vladimir Vorobyev and helicoptermen Sergey Rodionov and Mikhail Khrenov -- worked efficiently and intelligently, and kept to a tight schedule. The "Baykal" and the "Mikhail Somov" left the ice-jammed Cosmonauts' Sea and set a course for the east -- toward Sodruzhestvo Sea.

The "Baykal," which cleaned its hull of algae and barnacles during the work among the ice, proceeds rapidly. The "Mikhail Somov," in whose holds and on whose deck is much freight for Mirnyy, Leningradskaya, and Russkaya, keeps behind, at the limit of visibility.

The "Mikhail Somov," a scientific expedition ship, has come to replace the diesel electric ship "Ob," the pioneer of Antarctic navigation. This is its ninth trip to the Antarctic. Polar Captain M. Mikhaylov has brought his ship to the southern polar waters for the sixth time.

The diesel electric ship has responsible transport operations to carry out in the Antarctic seas, as well as special scientific research. A maritime detachment headed by M. Krasnoperov, who has formerly done much within the Arctic, is carrying out ice prospecting, measuring the sea depths, and studying the pecularities of the ship's operation among the ice.

SARATOV USES SATELLITE TO PUBLISH NEWSPAPERS

PM121454 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 84 Morning Edition p 6

[Own correspondent M. Ovcharov report, followed by TASS-attributed commentary by the USSR Ministry of Communications: "Newspaper via Space"]

[Text] Saratov -- From now on all central newspapers will be transmitted from Moscow to Saratov on pressfax equipment via space. The latest "Moskva" television broadcasting system is used for this purpose, acting in conjunction with the "Gorizont" artificial communications satellite.

I recently went one evening to the building housing the printing presses of the Kommunist Publishing House. The latest issue of IZVESTIYA had just been signed for publication in Moscow. People here, on the Volga's banks, were waiting to receive the photographic image of the entire newspaper with the help of the stationary satellite permanently suspended deep in space. Special printing matrices will then be made, with which the printing presses will start their run. It took exactly 2 minutes and 12 seconds to receive one newspaper page...

"For more than 10 years newspaper off-prints were transmitted to Saratov from the capital on pressfax equipment using land lines," V. Lysenko, chief of the newspaper reception center, said. "Now we need no cables at all: The newspaper comes here via space.

"It is noteworthy that we did not have to build special facilities for this. We simply installed a 2.5-meter dish antenna on the roof of the printing press building, and in this room we set up equipment which, as you can see, is no larger than a Zil refrigerator."

"What are the advantages of transmission using the 'Gori·ont' satellite?"

"The effect is mainly economic," V. Lysenko replied, "since 60 communications channels are being made available at once for the intercity telephone exchange. No land-based interference, which occurred at times during the newspaper transmission on land lines, can affect the space line, so that picture quality has significantly improved."

Commentary by the USSR Ministry of Communications

"Broadcasting technology is marching in step with the latest achievements of science," S. Martsenitsen, chief of the Maia Telegraphic Administration, remarked. "A new step has been taken now: The 'Moskva' system is operational for the first time in the country, receiving newspaper 'images' through the 'Gorizont' stationary satellite. Its compact reception antenna can be installed right on top of the building of any local printing press possessing the appropriate equipment. The 'Moskva' system will be introduced in other cities in the country after Saratov."